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LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Public Law 138--78th Congress

Chapter 224--1st Session

S. 1134

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DIGEST OF PUBLIC LAW 138

FLOOD CONTROL AND RELIEF. Authorizes appropriation of \$10,000,000 for the War Department to restore flood control works damaged by the recent floods. Directs suspension of AAA quotas, etc., with respect to agricultural commodities on lands affected by 1943 floods. Directs allocations and priorities to enable farmers in flood areas to restore their farm machinery and equipment.

INDEX AND SUMMARY OF HISTORY ON S. 1134

May 27, 1943	Introduced by Mr. Lucas and referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce.
June 23, 1943	Truman amendment.
June 26, 1943	Hearings: Senate, S. 1134
June 28, 1943	Senate Committee reported the bill with amendments. Senate Report 360. Print of the bill as reported.
June 29, 1943	Debated in Senate and passed with amendment.
June 30, 1943	Debated in House and passed with amendment. Senate and House appointed Conferees.
July 2, 1943	House received Conference Report, House Report 643.
July 3, 1943	Both Houses agreed to Conference Report.
July 12, 1943	Approved. Public Law 138.

78TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1134

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 27 (legislative day, MAY 24), 1943

Mr. LUCAS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce

A BILL

To amend section 5 of the Flood Control Act, approved August 18, 1941.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That section 5 of the Act entitled "An Act authorizing the
4 construction of certain public works on rivers and harbors
5 for flood control, and for other purposes", approved August
6 18, 1941, is hereby amended to read as follows:

7 "SEC. 5. The Secretary of War is hereby authorized to
8 allot, from any appropriations heretofore or hereafter made
9 for flood control, such sums as may be necessary during any
10 fiscal year for expenditure in rescue work, in the repair or
11 maintenance of any flood-control work threatened or de-

1 stroyed by flood, for improvements to any such flood-
2 control work, and for necessary flood-control measures where
3 the Secretary of War, upon the recommendation of the Chief
4 of Engineers, determines that an emergency exists.”

78TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1134

A BILL.

To amend section 5 of the Flood Control Act,
approved August 18, 1941.

By Mr. Lucas

MAY 27 (legislative day, MAY 24), 1943

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce

78TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1134

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 23 (legislative day, MAY 24), 1943

Referred to the Committee on Commerce and ordered to be printed

AMENDMENT

Intended to be proposed by Mr. TRUMAN to the bill (S. 1134)
to amend section 5 of the Flood Control Act, approved
August 18, 1941, viz: At the end of the bill add the follow-
ing new section:

1 SEC. 2. In order to aid in the rehabilitation of railroads
2 engaged in interstate commerce whose properties have been
3 destroyed or damaged, in whole or in part, by floods in 1943,
4 the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, with the approval
5 of the Interstate Commerce Commission, is authorized to
6 make a rehabilitation loan or loans to any such railroad, or
7 to the receivers or trustees thereof, in such manner, upon
8 such terms and conditions, and with such security, as the
9 Corporation may prescribe; except that each such loan shall

1 bear no interest and shall contain provisions for the amortiza-
2 tion thereof over a period of not to exceed forty years. The
3 total amount of loans and commitments to railroads, receivers,
4 and trustees under this section shall not exceed at any one
5 time \$100,000,000. The amount of notes, bonds, deben-
6 tures, and other such obligations which the Corporation is
7 authorized and empowered to issue and to have outstanding
8 at any one time under existing law is hereby increased by an
9 amount sufficient to carry out the provisions of this section.

78TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1134

AMENDMENT

Intended to be proposed by Mr. TRUMAN to the bill (S. 1134), to amend section 5 of the Flood Control Act, approved August 18, 1941.

JUNE 23 (legislative day, May 24), 1943

Referred to the Committee on Commerce and ordered
to be printed

HEARING
BEFORE A
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE
UNITED STATES SENATE
SEVENTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS
FIRST SESSION
ON
S. 1134
A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 5 OF THE
FLOOD CONTROL ACT, APPROVED
AUGUST 18, 1941

JUNE 26, 1943

Printed for the use of the Committee on Commerce



COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

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SUBCOMMITTEE

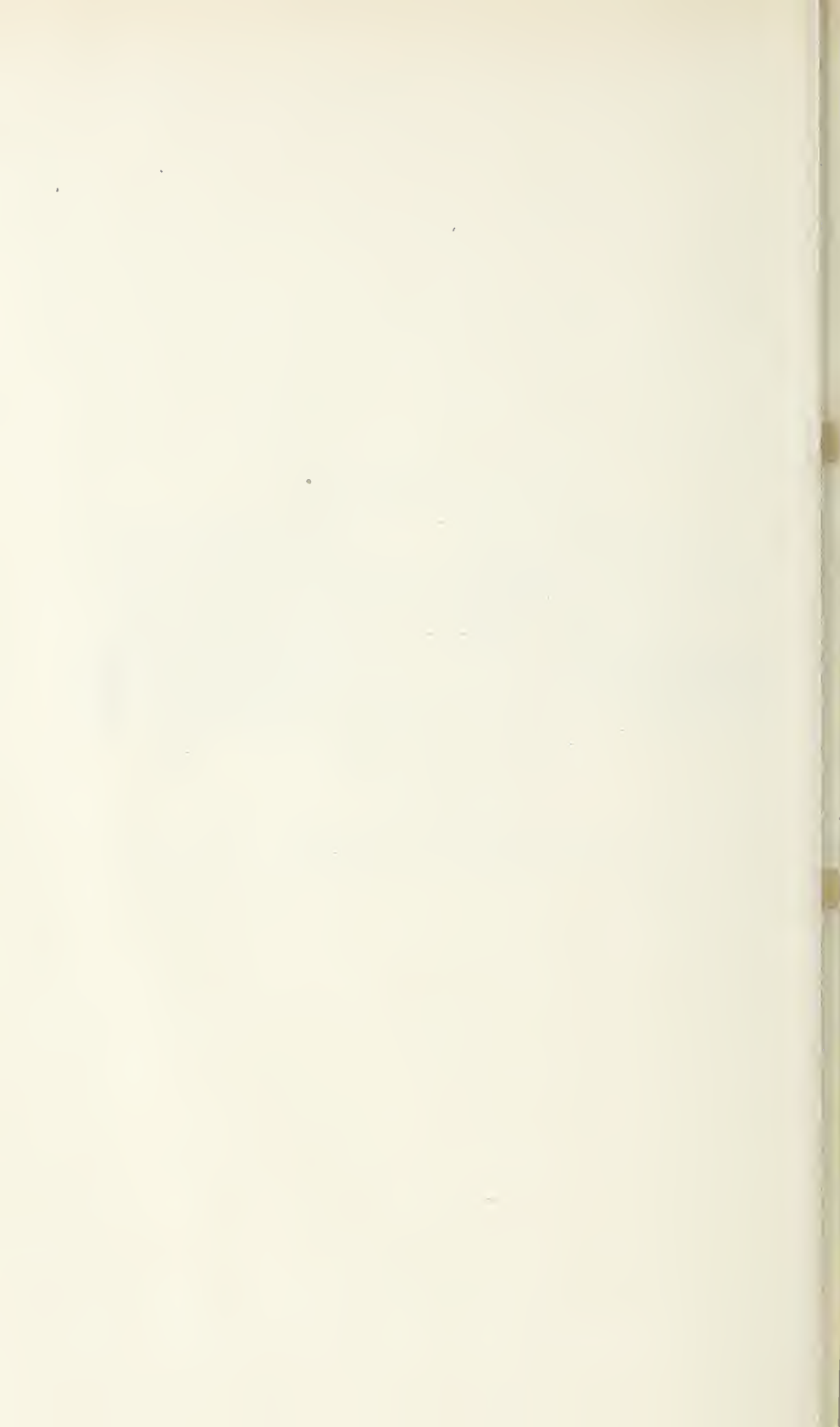
JOHN H. OVERTON, Louisiana, *Chairman*

BENNETT CHAMP CLARK, Missouri

CHARLES L. McNARY, Oregon

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EMERGENCY FLOOD CONTROL WORKS

SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 1943

UNITED STATES SENATE,
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE,
Washington, D. C.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to call, at 10:30 a. m., in the committee room of the Committee on Commerce, United States Capitol, Senator John H. Overton (chairman) presiding.

Present: Senators Overton (chairman) and Clark.

Also present: Senators Lucas and Truman.

Senator OVERTON. The committee will come to order.

The subcommittee has under consideration S. 1134, to amend section 5 of the Flood Control Act, approved August 18, 1941.

At this point of the hearing the bill will be reproduced in the record.

(S. 1134 is as follows:)

[S. 1134, 78th Cong., 1st sess.]

A BILL To amend section 5 of the Flood Control Act, approved August 18, 1941

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 5 of the Act entitled "An Act authorizing the construction of certain public works on rivers and harbors for flood control, and for other purposes," approved August 18, 1941, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 5. The Secretary of War is hereby authorized to allot, from any appropriations heretofore or hereafter made for flood control, such sums as may be necessary during any fiscal year for expenditure in rescue work, in the repair or maintenance of any flood-control work threatened or destroyed by flood, for improvements to any such flood-control work, and for necessary flood-control measures where the Secretary of War, upon the recommendation of the Chief of Engineers, determines that an emergency exists."

Senator OVERTON. This bill was submitted to the War Department, and the Secretary of War has considered it and has approved the bill. It has been submitted to the Bureau of the Budget, and the Bureau has no objection to the enactment of the bill.

At this point of the hearing we shall insert the report of the War Department on the bill.

(The report of the War Department is as follows:)

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, June 19, 1943.

HON. JOSIAH W. BAILEY,
Chairman, Committee on Commerce,
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SENATOR BAILEY: Reference is made to your letter of May 28, 1943, requesting a report on S. 1134, to amend section 5 of the Flood Control Act, approved August 18, 1941.

During the months of April and May just past, floods of unusual severity occurred in various sections of the country, resulting in the breaking and destruction of many levee systems and other works constructed by local communities for protection from floods, much damage to private property, and some loss of life. In the Missouri, Mississippi, Illinois, and Arkansas Rivers, and their tributary streams, these floods were especially destructive, reaching in some cases a volume and stage exceeding those of any maximum floods of record. It is the view of the Department that the repair and reconstruction of the destroyed flood-protective works should be undertaken without undue delay in order that local communities may be relieved from the danger of constantly recurring minor floods, and that reconstruction should include such improvement in the works as may be found necessary to afford better protection from future major floods.

Section 5 of the act of August 18, 1941, authorizes the Secretary of War to allot from flood-control appropriations, for expenditure on work of this kind, not to exceed \$1,000,000 for any one fiscal year. This sum is entirely inadequate to meet the needs of the existing emergency. The purpose of the resolution is to so amend this section as to remove the present limitation on expenditures and permit a larger amount to be expended when, in the judgment of the Secretary of War and Chief of Engineers, emergent flood conditions require it. Legislation to authorize the expenditure of a larger sum to meet the present emergency is believed to be warrantable in the public interest, and if S. 1134 is amended as indicated on a copy of the same herewith the Department recommends its favorable consideration by Congress.

A similar report on House Joint Resolution 132, an identical bill, was submitted to the Bureau of the Budget, which advises that there is no objection to the submission of the report.

Sincerely yours,

HENRY L. STIMSON, *Secretary of War.*

PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF WAR DEPARTMENT TO S. 1134

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

"That the Secretary of War is hereby authorized to allot, from funds heretofore appropriated for flood control, not to exceed \$10,000,000 to be expended under his direction and under the supervision of the Chief of Engineers for the repair, restoration, and improvements of levees and other flood-control works which have been seriously injured or destroyed by the recent floods.

"Amend the title to read as follows: 'To provide for emergency flood-control work made necessary by the flood of 1943.'"

Senator OVERTON. Now, there was a similar bill introduced in the House by Congressman Cannon, and I think two or three other bills, all relating to the recent flood disasters on the Missouri, the upper Mississippi, Illinois, and Wabash. The House Flood Control Committee considered the bill and has reported a bill which carries out the purposes of the bill that we introduced in the Senate, the bill that we have under consideration, but with some additional phrases. That is H. R. 3010. With the approval of the members of the subcommittee I shall have H. R. 3010 reproduced at this point in the hearing. Also I submit for the consideration of the subcommittee the report on H. R. 3010, a report submitted by the Committee on Flood Control, relative to H. R. 3010.

(H. R. 3010 and the report referred to are as follows:)

[H. R. 3010, 78th Cong., 1st sess.]

A BILL To provide for emergency flood-control work made necessary by recent floods

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the sum of \$10,000,000 is hereby authorized to be appropriated as an emergency fund to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers for the repair, restoration, and strengthening of levees and other flood-control works which have been threatened or destroyed by the recent floods: *Provided,* That pending the

appropriation of said sum the Secretary of War may allot from existing flood-control appropriations such sums as may be necessary for the immediate prosecution of the work herein authorized, such appropriations to be reimbursed from the appropriation herein authorized when made: *Provided further, That funds allotted under this authority shall not be diverted from the unobligated funds from the appropriation "Flood control, general", made available in the War Department Civil Appropriation Act, 1944, for specific purposes therein enumerated.*

SEC. 2. The provisions of this Act shall be deemed to be additional and supplemental to, and not in lieu of, existing general legislation authorizing allocation of flood-control funds for restoration of flood-control works threatened or destroyed by flood.

EMERGENCY REPAIRS TO FLOOD CONTROL WORKS

The Committee on Flood Control, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 3010), to provide for emergency flood control work made necessary by recent floods, having considered and amended the same, report it favorably to the House and recommend that it do pass, as amended.

The committee amended the bill as follows:

Page 2, line 2, after the word "made", strike out the period, add a colon, and insert the following: "*Provided further, That funds allotted under this authority shall not be diverted from the unobligated funds from the appropriation "Flood control, general," made available in the War Department Civil Appropriation Act, 1944, for specific purposes therein enumerated.*"

The purpose of the bill is to authorize the additional amount of \$10,000,000 as an emergency fund to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers, for the repair, restoration, and strengthening of levees and other flood-control works which have been threatened or destroyed by the recent floods. The bill also provides for the use of available balances from existing flood-control appropriations for this work pending the appropriation of the \$10,000,000 amount authorized, and it provides for the reimbursement of the existing appropriations from the appropriation authorized in the bill. Section 2 of the act states that the provisions thereof shall be additional and supplemental to, and not in lieu of, existing general legislation which authorizes allocation of flood control funds for repair and maintenance of flood control works threatened or destroyed by floods.

Foundation treatment or enlargement of levee sections if needed, can be carried out. The committee believes it is sound economy to include strengthening work of this character in the repair operations so as to minimize costly sandbagging and flood fighting and avoid the expenditure of Federal funds solely for restoration of manifestly inadequate works. It is intended that this bill will provide for only minor improvements, and it is not intended that this bill will provide for major improvements or extensions of existing levee systems, or for constructing flood-control works, or providing flood-control protection where none now exists.

Several bills were introduced to provide for emergency appropriations for repairs and restoration as a result of recent floods, including H. R. 2746, by Mr. Curtis, of Nebraska, to provide \$3,000,000 for repairs and restoration along the Missouri River, and including House Joint Resolution 132 by Mr. Cannon, of Missouri, to provide \$10,000,000 for emergency works. The Secretary of War submitted a favorable report on June 19, 1943, on a similar resolution, House Joint Resolution 132, with favorable Budget approval, and the report of the Secretary of War is as follows:

In section 5 of the Flood Control Act approved August 18, 1941, the Congress adopted for the first time the policy that the Federal Government should assist in the repair and maintenance of flood-control structures threatened or destroyed by floods throughout the United States. That act authorized the allotment of \$1,000,000 per year for this purpose. The recent great floods throughout the Middle West along the Missouri, upper Mississippi, Illinois, Wabash, Arkansas, White, and St. Francis Rivers, and their tributaries, have necessitated such extensive rescue work and flood fighting as to have nearly exhausted the emergency funds available under section 5 of the 1941 act. Funds for repair work are entirely inadequate to meet the need.

The committee has recently held extensive hearings and has received testimony from Members of Congress, local interests, and the Chief of Engineers on the recent floods. It was brought out that these floods have, in many areas, greatly exceeded all previous floods of record, and throughout the entire flooded area

record stages were approached. Widespread damage and loss of life occurred throughout large regions, with attendant disruptions of agriculture, industry, and communications. The Chief of Engineers has furnished the following preliminary estimate of the areas inundated, loss of life, and flood damages:

River basin	Area inundated in acres	Reported deaths	Estimated damages
Illinois River.....	304,000	9	\$5,900,000
Sangamon River.....	140,000	2	1,300,000
Arkansas River.....	1,445,000	26	30,090,000
White River.....	1,005,000	1	4,459,000
St. Francis River.....	85,000	0	23,000
Mississippi River.....	3,550,000	3	22,462,000
Missouri River.....	1,800,000	10	20,000,000
Wabash River.....	700,000	11	12,000,000
Total.....	9,029,000	62	96,234,000

It is probable that more complete data will total to much larger figures.

These record and near-record floods have damaged and destroyed a great many of the flood-protection structures which had been built over a period of years by the local interests in an effort to provide adequate flood protection for themselves. Unless these protective works are repaired quickly large areas will remain subject to inundation from even minor floods. In many instances it is impracticable to plant crops until flood protection is restored. Based on data furnished by the Chief of Engineers the committee estimates, that for emergency reconstruction of existing flood control works and for rescue work and flood fighting, about \$10,-000,000 will be required in addition to the funds now available for that work. The committee believes that this amount should be provided immediately and that the repair work should be carried out with all dispatch.

Under the provisions of the bill the Chief of Engineers can repair and restore levees and other flood-control works to original condition and where advisable can strengthen the structures to provide full safety against floods of the magnitude they are designed to withstand. Minor raising of low portions of levee systems can be accomplished. Short extensions to provide adequate ties to high ground can be made. Short set-backs may be made where necessary to preserve the integrity of levee lines.

As stated, several bills, including said H. R. 2746 and House Joint Resolution 132, which provide for varying degrees of emergency flood protection throughout the country and in certain localities, have been introduced and referred to this committee. The committee carefully considered all of the bills and in lieu thereof reports H. R. 3010 as a substitute for them. As stated, the Secretary of War reports favorably on substantially the same legislation for a similar amount with Budget approval. The committee recommend that the bill be considered and passed at the earliest practicable date.

As provided in section 2, the bill does not amend, repeal, or modify existing law. The provisions of the bill are additional and supplemental to existing legislation.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, June 19, 1943.

Hon. WILL M. WHITTINGTON,
Chairman, Committee on Flood Control,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR JUDGE WHITTINGTON: Reference is made to your letter of June 3, 1943, requesting a report on House Joint Resolution 132, a joint resolution to amend section 5 of the Flood Control Act, approved August 18, 1941.

During the months of April and May just past floods of unusual severity occurred in various sections of the country, resulting in the breaking and destruction of many levee systems and other works constructed by local communities for protection from floods, much damage to private property, and some loss of life. In the Missouri, Mississippi, Illinois, and Arkansas Rivers, and their tributary streams, these floods were especially destructive, reaching in some cases a volume and stage exceeding those of any maximum floods of record. It is the view of the Department that the repair and reconstruction of the destroyed flood protective works should be undertaken without undue delay in order that local communities may be relieved from the danger of constantly recurring minor

floods, and that reconstruction should include such improvement in the works as may be found necessary to afford better protection from future major floods.

Section 5 of the act of August 18, 1941, authorizes the Secretary of War to allot from flood-control appropriations, for expenditure on work of this kind, not to exceed \$1,000,000 for any one fiscal year. This sum is entirely inadequate to meet the needs of the existing emergency. The purpose of the resolution is to so amend this section as to remove the present limitation on expenditures and permit a larger amount to be expended when, in the judgment of the Secretary of War and Chief of Engineers, emergent flood conditions require it. Legislation to authorize the expenditure of a larger sum to meet the present emergency is believed to be warrantable in the public interest, and if House Joint Resolution 132 is amended as indicated on a copy of the same herewith, the Department recommends its favorable consideration by Congress.

The Bureau of the Budget advises that there is no objection to the submission of this report.

Sincerely yours,

HENRY L. STIMSON,
Secretary of War.

Senator Overton. Now, since the introduction of the bill, there has been an amendment to the bill introduced by Senator Truman. Have you a modified form of your amendment?

Senator TRUMAN. Yes; there is a modified form of my amendment, and I would like to have Judge Fletcher discuss it for the committee. This is the modified form of the amendment.

Senator OVERTON. That will be reproduced in the record at this point.

(The modified form of the amendment is as follows:)

AMENDMENT Intended to be proposed by Mr. Truman to the bill (S. 1134) to amend section 5 of the Flood Control Act, approved August 18, 1941, viz:
At the end of the bill add the following new section:

"SEC. 2. In order to aid in the rehabilitation, including necessary relocation, protection, and elevation above flood plane, of railroads engaged in interstate commerce whose properties have been destroyed or damaged, in whole or in part, by floods in 1943, the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, with the approval of the Interstate Commerce Commission, is authorized to make a rehabilitation loan or loans to any such railroad, or to the receivers or trustees thereof, in such manner, upon such terms and conditions, and with such security, as the Corporation may prescribe; except that each such loan shall bear no interest and shall contain provisions for the amortization thereof over a period of not to exceed 40 years. The total amount of loans and commitments to railroads, receivers, and trustees under this section shall not exceed at any one time \$100,000,000. The amount of notes, bonds, debentures, and other such obligations which the Corporation is authorized and empowered to issue and to have outstanding at any one time under existing law is hereby increased by an amount sufficient to carry out the provisions of this section."

Senator OVERTON. That covers all of the proposed legislation bearing on this subject both in the House and in the Senate.

Senator Lucas, do you wish to make a statement?

STATEMENT OF HON. SCOTT W. LUCAS, UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM ILLINOIS

Senator LUCAS. Mr. Chairman, the statement I desire to make will be extremely brief. During the recent unprecedented floods in my section of the State—

Senator OVERTON (interposing). Will you pardon an interruption for a moment?

Senator LUCAS. Yes.

Senator OVERTON. Senator Clark has introduced several bills but none have been referred to this committee.

Senator CLARK. None have been referred to this committee. I introduced one bill asking for direct relief for the Ohio, Mississippi, and Missouri Valleys, \$15,000,000. That went to the Appropriations Committee. Then, I introduced a bill suspending all agricultural allotment quotas in any case where the Secretary of Agriculture finds as a fact that replanting is necessary. That went to the Agricultural Committee. Then, I introduced a bill directing the W. P. B. to, as far as possible, bring about priorities to enable these people to replace their fencing, agricultural implements, and that went to the Military Affairs Committee. None of them were referred to this committee.

Senator OVERTON. So they are not before this committee?

Senator CLARK. They are not before this committee; no, sir.

Senator OVERTON. All right, Senator Lucas.

Pardon that interruption.

Senator LUCAS. It is perfectly all right, Mr. Chairman.

As I said a moment ago, as the result of my trip through Illinois during the floods I had occasion to view at first-hand what was going on in the way of high water and the damage caused thereby.

Upon my return I immediately contacted practically every agency of the Government which I thought might have something to do with the alleviation of the damage and suffering caused by the flood. One of these agencies was the War Department. I learned from the War Department that under section 5 of the Flood Control Act as approved August 18, 1941, they were limited to the spending of \$1,000,000 per annum for flood-control projects. I also learned that they had an unexpended or rather an unobligated balance in this fund of approximately \$30,000,000. They advised me that unless some legislation was passed by the Congress it would be impossible for them to spend more than \$1,000,000, and practically all of that \$1,000,000 was obligated. However, I want to commend the War Department at this point for holding up some of the commitments which have been made in connection with the \$1,000,000 and using it in the various flood areas in my section and other sections of the country to deal with the immediate emergency. I cannot tell you how many thousands upon thousands acres of land have been flooded even in the Illinois Valley, suffice it to say, unless many of the holes in these levees are plugged immediately—

Senator OVERTON (interposing). If I may interrupt you, the report made by the Flood Control Committee of the House shows 9,029,000 acres inundated on the Illinois, Sangamon, Arkansas, White River, St. Francis, Mississippi, Missouri, and Wabash Rivers.

Senator LUCAS. I thank the chairman for putting that statement in the record at that point. As I was saying a moment ago, unless the holes in these levees are plugged immediately, giving the drainage commissioners and others interested in these lands the opportunity to repair their pumps and get this water on the inside of these districts out, there will be no crops this year. It is very doubtful whether they will get any crop even with all the speed that the War Department and others have acted with up to the present time. However, if we should have a late fall and we can get the 90-day corn, as we call it in our country, there is not any question even yet that we can raise a crop of corn.

Coming back from Chicago this morning, I noticed many fields in Indiana where it has been very wet, that the corn is just now peeping through the ground, where in Maryland it is a foot or a foot and a half high. That is just the difference. The whole corn crop is extremely late in Illinois and Indiana where these floods have been raging.

We all know what the situation with corn is at the moment. We need every acre we can plant out there. That is why I have been so insistent on getting this bill passed. Without turning loose the \$1,000,000 of the War Department so they can immediately go into action on certain emergencies, why, we would be just where we were when I introduced the bill some 2 weeks ago. It is a little difficult for me, Mr. Chairman, to understand sometimes why it is these departments cannot in great emergencies cut some of the red tape and get these bills back to Congress.

Now, we could pass this bill without any testimony from the War Department or the Budget Bureau in my judgment, because everybody knows from the newspapers and from actual knowledge what was going on out there. Now, if a man has his jugular vein cut you do not go through a lot of red tape. This, in my judgment, is one of the greatest emergencies that has ever happened in the Illinois Valley, one of the greatest catastrophes.

Senator OVERTON. If I may interrupt you, sometimes we get a better bill by referring it to the War Department.

Senator LUCAS. There isn't any doubt about it.

Senator OVERTON. Have you read the Whittington bill as reported by the House Flood Control Committee?

Senator LUCAS. I have not.

Senator OVERTON. May I state briefly to you what it is?

Senator LUCAS. Certainly.

Senator OVERTON. It provides for an immediate authorization of an appropriation of \$10,000,000.

Senator LUCAS. That is all right.

Senator OVERTON. Then it has a proviso:

That pending the appropriation of said sum the Secretary of War may allot from existing flood-control appropriations such sums as may be necessary for the immediate prosecution of the work herein authorized, such appropriations to be reimbursed from the appropriation herein authorized when made.

There is the further proviso that such an allocation will not interfere with certain projects for which these unobligated funds were made available under the recent act of Congress.

Senator LUCAS. Well, first, Mr. Chairman, the allocation of those funds has to pass the Congress before they can be allocated. That is the point I am making. While we are legislating on the allocation of funds the damage from the flood still remains in status quo, so to speak; nothing is being done.

What the War Department has done is of great constructive value, in my opinion. In other words, if I am correct, you gentlemen have taken upon yourselves, so far as the \$1,000,000 is concerned, to go in and take care of the real emergencies as you see them in all of these districts. Am I correct about that, General?

General REYBOLD. Yes, sir. I would like to say this off the record. (Discussion was had outside the record.)

Senator LUCAS. I am very happy to get that report from you, General, because in the beginning it was my understanding from

somebody down in the War Department that in view of the fact that most of this \$1,000,000 had more or less been obligated, as I understood it, it was impossible for you to do anything at all, that is, anything of a really constructive nature until section 5 of the Flood Control Act was amended. That is the reason I threw this bill into the hopper and talked to the chairman of the Commerce Committee, and the chairman immediately appointed a subcommittee over 2 weeks ago, and I am very happy to learn that you gentlemen are doing just what you said you did. I do not think there is any question about anyone going to jail for that kind of work.

If we had more fellows in these emergencies do that, take a chance on going to jail, we would not be in some of the muddles that we are in at the present time.

Anyhow, Mr. Chairman, in addition to that, one feature of this legislation is that it would give these gentlemen the right, give the War Department the right to expend the unobligated balance. I do not know how much they would need, or what they could spend, but since that time I have learned they feel \$10,000,000 is a sufficient amount, which is highly satisfactory with me. In other words, I rely upon their judgment on a matter of that kind, and I presume that is where Mr. Whittington got his advice in connection with the \$10,000,000. So an amendment to this bill in line with the Whittington bill is perfectly all right. You can modify it along that line.

In the second part of the bill, as I understood from the War Department, under the present law it would be impossible to widen the base of any of these levees or increase the height. In my home town at Havana, Ill., on the Illinois River, we had water there that was approximately 3 feet higher than it was in 1844, which I think was the high flood. I may be wrong about that. Was 1844 the highest flood?

General REYBOLD. Yes, sir.

Senator LUCAS. It was in the neighborhood of 3 feet more than anything we had ever experienced there, and I was advised it was impossible, under the present law, for the Army to lay any plans and specifications to build these levees higher. To rebuild the project they have to build it of the same height. So this legislation gives the Army the right to construct the height of these levees as they deem advisable under the present experience.

Senator OVERTON. The Whittington bill gives them authority to repair, restore, and strengthen the levee. I think that is broad enough.

Senator LUCAS. Do you think that is broad enough, General, to repair, restore, and strengthen?

General REYBOLD. Yes, sir, Senator; I believe it is. Your bill went much further than that if I remember correctly, and would throw the door wide open to extend and increase the cross section and increase the grade of levees. I think maybe that is too broad to place in the hands of the Corps of Engineers.

Senator LUCAS. All right.

Senator CLARK. What about these levees, General, that have been privately constructed, that is, where the people themselves have built the levees?

General REYBOLD. They are the levees to which the Senator refers.

Senator LUCAS. That is right.

Senator CLARK. We have a lot of them on the Missouri River, I know.

General REYBOLD. That is what section 5 of the Flood Control Act covers, is privately constructed levees.

Senator LUCAS. Well, I do not want any question about the legislation along that line. I want you gentlemen to have the power to lay your plans in the future on the setting back of the levees, or rebuilding the levees, or that you may go to a greater height. Certainly our experience is they need that legislation without any question.

Senator OVERTON. I assume that the proper course in reference to any comprehensive flood-control plan along these streams and tributaries should be submitted to Congress and authorized but the purpose of this legislation is to go ahead and repair the damage. Where, for instance, the levee is to be reconstructed, it will be built up to a grade and section that will be contemplated in the proposed new plan of flood control.

Senator LUCAS. That is right. This is emergency legislation.

Senator OVERTON. That is right.

Senator LUCAS. The third part of the bill deals with the emergency projects. Now, if I understood the War Department correctly, they had no right to go out outside of the projects that were already designed and do any emergency work whatever on something that had been destroyed as the result of the flood. There is many a spot where maybe some emergency work, immediate emergency work, is needed, and the engineers know that, and they ought to have that right or that power. Of course, the question of emergency is a tremendously broad term, and the War Department might not want all of that power, but I am not quibbling or haggling with the construction of words. The emergency was out there, and I did not want to take any chance on not giving them all the legislation authority that was necessary to do what I believe so essential in connection with these flooded areas.

Now, Mr. Chairman, that is about all that I have to say. I have numerous documents and letters that I could put into the record, but I think it is unnecessary.

Senator OVERTON. I think we thoroughly understand the situation; I think the whole Congress does.

Senator LUCAS. I think everybody does understand it.

Senator OVERTON. Yes.

Senator LUCAS. It is a matter of public knowledge. There is no reason to encumber the record with a long list of documents, letters, blueprints, files, and so forth, that have been sent to me from the different drainage commissions in my section of the country with respect to it. I happen to live in Havana, which is on the Illinois River. My life has been spent on the Sangamon and Illinois Rivers, and both rivers were affected by this flood, and the lands adjacent thereto. The Sangamon was worse even than the Illinois, only on a smaller scale.

Senator CLARK. The Missouri was worse than either one of them. We are having the second large flood of the year just now.

Senator OVERTON. Thank you very much, Senator Lucas.

Senator TRUMAN, would you mind waiting until we get testimony on the main bill?

Senator TRUMAN. Yes.

Senator LUCAS. I want to say this before I conclude:

Whatever language is satisfactory to the War Department in connection with any modification of this bill in the way of an amendment

is satisfactory to me, and the subcommittee can report it out that way.

Senator OVERTON. General Reybold, will you take the stand, please?

**STATEMENT OF MAJ. GEN. E. REYBOLD, CHIEF OF ENGINEERS,
WAR DEPARTMENT**

Senator OVERTON. The first question I want to ask you, General, is this: You read the Whittington bill as amended by the House Flood Control Committee, H. R. 3010; have you not?

General REYBOLD. Yes, sir.

Senator OVERTON. Is that bill satisfactory to the War Department, the Chief of Engineers?

General REYBOLD. Yes, sir.

Senator OVERTON. Would you say that it is perhaps a little more comprehensive and meets the problem better than the pending bill that was introduced by Senator Lucas?

General REYBOLD. Yes, sir.

Senator OVERTON. Now, I would be glad for you to make any statement that you desire to make in connection with it.

General REYBOLD. I have nothing much to say, Senator, except to ask for the expeditious action on this bill. No one knows better than I the damage that has been done. I have flown over that entire area while the floods were taking place, and later made numerous contacts on the ground. The damages are very, very severe throughout the entire area of the Illinois, Missouri, Wabash, Arkansas, and White Rivers.

Senator OVERTON. Now, let me ask you, this provides for an emergency fund of \$10,000,000, it authorizes the appropriation, and it also authorizes the immediate use of unobligated balances out of flood-control funds generally, with the reservation that the funds allotted under this authority shall not be diverted from the unobligated funds from the appropriation "Flood control, general", made available in the War Department Civil Appropriations Act, 1944, for the specific purposes therein enumerated.

Now then, when this \$10,000,000, or as much thereof as may be necessary to be appropriated, has been used, is it your purpose to investigate this whole situation with the view of submitting a plan of flood control on those streams?

General REYBOLD. Yes, sir.

Senator OVERTON. Shall I say it is a comprehensive flood control plan?

General REYBOLD. Yes, sir.

Senator OVERTON. That then will be submitted in the usual course. If you make recommendations to the Congress and the Congress will authorize these projects, and when authorized the appropriations will be made on them.

General REYBOLD. That is correct, sir, and that is under discussion in the House of Representatives now on a flood control bill in which we hope to incorporate the more important considerations of these valleys for additional protection.

Senator OVERTON. That will require, of course, a much larger sum than \$10,000,000, a comprehensive flood-control plan.

General REYBOLD. Yes, sir; much more.

Senator OVERTON. It is too early to ask you what your estimate will be on that, how much will be required?

General REYBOLD. Yes, sir; it is.

Senator OVERTON. But it would be much larger than \$10,000,000?

General REYBOLD. Yes.

Senator OVERTON. This would be used in the emergency. This would meet the present situation, would it not?

General REYBOLD. Yes

Senator OVERTON. It would be sufficient to meet the present situation?

General REYBOLD. Yes, sir; this will take care of the present emergency on those streams. May I say something off the record?

Senator OVERTON. Yes.

(Discussion was had outside the record.)

Senator OVERTON. Is there any other statement you desire to make?

General REYBOLD. No, sir.

Senator OVERTON. There is a fairly comprehensive report submitted by the Flood Control Committee of the House on H. R. 3010. Did you have occasion to read it, Colonel?

Colonel GOETHALS. Yes, sir.

Senator OVERTON. It correctly sets forth the facts?

Colonel GOETHALS. That is correct.

Senator OVERTON. It gives a broad and fair picture of the situation?

Colonel GOETHALS. Yes, sir.

Senator OVERTON. All right. I think that will conclude the testimony on the main bill, unless someone else desires to testify.

Now, Senator Truman, we will be glad to take up your amendment.

Senator TRUMAN. I suggested an amendment to the flood control bill. I do not know whether it properly belongs to this committee or not. I made a suggestion that the railroads be authorized to cooperate with the Corps of Engineers in a relocation and realinement in some instances of their rights-of-way that have, to some extent, caused a great many of these overflows on farm lands in various places. Many of the railroads are in receivership and my amendment authorizes the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to make loans for the purpose of meeting the plans as approved and authorized by the Corps of Engineers. I would like very much to have Judge Fletcher discuss the matter further, if it meets with the approval of the committee.

Senator OVERTON. All right, Judge Fletcher.

STATEMENT OF R. V. FLETCHER, VICE PRESIDENT, ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

Mr. FLETCHER. Mr. Chairman, my name is R. V. Fletcher.

Senator OVERTON. Whom do you represent?

Mr. FLETCHER. I am a lawyer living here in Washington. I am vice president of the Association of American Railroads.

Senator OVERTON. You represent all the railroads?

Mr. FLETCHER. Practically, all the railroads.

I am going to make a very short statement, Senator.

Senator OVERTON. All the railroads that will be affected by this amendment?

Mr. FLETCHER. All the railroads that will be affected by this amendment and all the railroads in the country generally.

I will make a short statement.

I might say in reference to the original bill, if Senator Lucas will pardon me, I lived in Illinois 22 years. I call it my home State. It is a situation with which I am very familiar. While this statement may be purely gratuitous, I happened to go to Peoria about a week or so ago to attend a meeting of the Illinois Bar Association. I went down on the Rock Island from Chicago to Peoria, and back on a bus from Peoria to Peru, where I got a train. I had never seen, Senator the Illinois Valley in such a condition as it is now. Even after all these weeks that have passed since the flood reached its climax I saw thousands of acres of fertile land that still seemed to be under water. I can, therefore, bear personal testimony to what Senator Lucas has said about the condition there and the danger that the crop will be lost unless something is done very soon.

Coming down now to this amendment in which we are especially interested, Senator Truman has kindly offered this amendment which provides, in substance, that the Reconstruction Finance Corporation shall lend money to the railroads for the purpose of rehabilitating their properties, including necessary relocation and protection and elevation above flood plane. This amendment does not propose that the Government shall give the railroads any money but it shall lend it to them without interest, to be repaid in the period of 40 years.

The only thing about it that might strike the committee as being extraordinary is the provision that it shall be loaned to them without interest.

Now, I am familiar with the fact that the Congress deemed proper through all the years that I have been an observer of its proceedings, that in the case of an extraordinary disastrous flood like this, amounts have been donated by the Congress for the purpose of rehabilitating the country and meeting some of the losses that have fallen upon people, losses which the utmost vigilance could not have avoided but the railroads are asking only that they be allowed to have this money, which they would use in the public interest, to get their properties back into shape as soon as possible, in order that they may go on with the war effort which they have been carrying on very successfully, as the country realizes.

Now, the particular section of the country that I call attention to is in the Southwest, a region traversed by the Frisco Railroad, M. K. & T., Kansas City Southern, and possibly others. One railroad I had in mind particularly, not here represented, I believe, is the Midland Railroad. What is the exact name of that railroad, Mr. Couch?

Mr. COUCH. The Midland Valley Railroad.

Mr. FLETCHER. The Midland Valley Railroad. The name escaped me for a moment. That is a small railroad, Mr. Chairman, that hasn't got an investment of more than \$3,000,000 or \$4,000,000, and they plan a \$1,000,000 loan. The traffic has been interrupted and the war effort really to some extent impeded by these conditions. We thought it would be only reasonable that the Reconstruction Finance Corporation should be directed to loan them such money as necessary to rehabilitate their properties, because it is an act of God, it is a thing

that could not be avoided, it is a thing that could not be guarded against, and it is in line, I think, with the settled policy of Congress that its citizens should be protected at least to that extent.

Now, when this flood came on and the movement of traffic was interrupted, it was almost impossible to divert this traffic elsewhere by reason of the fact that railroads are busy right now, strained to the utmost capacity to take care of the war traffic and the civilian traffic that has been offered to them and there has been a congestion through the St. Louis gateway, through the Memphis gateway, and the same applies all through this territory.

To give you some idea about it, I was told this morning by one of the officers of one of the railroads that whereas normally they had per day 6 freight trains through that territory, that they had just prior to the flood 26 trains of war material and civilian traffic which they were required to handle.

I suppose the losses on these railroads, Senator, would amount to probably \$10,000,000, taking it all in all, the cost to relocate the properties in some cases. They lost a great deal also in the way of revenue from the loss of traffic.

Senator OVERTON. If I may interrupt you, Judge—

Mr. FLETCHER. Yes, sir.

Senator OVERTON. This amendment will authorize the lending of as much as \$100,000,000.

Mr. FLETCHER. I think that is too high.

Senator OVERTON. I wanted to ask you about that.

Mr. FLETCHER. I think that figure is unnecessarily high, Senator. I should think \$25,000,000 would be all right.

What do you think about that, Senator Truman?

Senator TRUMAN. Something to that extent. The expenditure is not to be made except on the recommendation of the engineers in charge of the flood-control project, and the recommendation of the Interstate Commerce Commission. Whatever amount the committee feels is necessary to be authorized is all right with me. I just want enough to meet the situation, because it is a very serious situation all over the Southwest, as far as the southwestern railroads are concerned.

Senator OVERTON. The Judge made the statement that the damage to the railroads amounted to \$10,000,000.

Mr. FLETCHER. The statement here, Senator, is that at no one time shall it ever be more than \$100,000,000.

Senator OVERTON. If the total damage to the railroads is \$10,000,000, would that not take care of the situation?

Mr. FLETCHER. So far as this immediate emergency is concerned, yes. I should think a figure of \$25,000,000 or \$20,000,000 would be all right. Of course, my estimate was a rough one.

Senator TRUMAN. I do not think any real survey has been made on it, Mr. Chairman. It would probably be a good thing for the committee to try to get some exact estimate. You understand there will be some additional expenditures in addition to the exact damages because in a lot of instances it will require a complete relocation, a raising of the bridges and everything to open the waterway, to accommodate a larger volume of water. That is absolutely necessary, and it should be included in the authorization for the purpose of actual flood control.

Senator OVERTON. You are bringing out what I wanted to ask the Judge about. That is, the \$10,000,000 to which he refers does not embrace all that will be necessary to be done.

Mr. FLETCHER. Not if they put it on a permanent and proper basis. Senator TRUMAN. That is true.

Senator OVERTON. There is one other thing. Senator Truman said that the plans would have to be submitted under this amendment to the Chief of Engineers. The amendment does not contain that provision, however, as I read it.

Senator TRUMAN. I think it ties in, Mr. Chairman, with the rest of the bill. If it is attached to this bill it would undoubtedly have to meet the approval of the Army Engineers before they could make any relocations, raising of bridges, and things of that sort. That was my theory on it. I may be wrong.

The CHAIRMAN. There would be no objection to inserting a clause something like this: "With the approval of the Secretary of War under the supervision of the Chief of Engineers," would there?

Senator TRUMAN. Not at all.

Mr. FLETCHER. There is one thing I wanted to mention before I forget, and that is this: Senator Truman, as I recall, the amendment that you proposed uses the word "rehabilitation."

Senator TRUMAN. That is right.

Mr. FLETCHER. We are trying to suggest most respectfully that after the word "rehabilitation," there should be included the following words:

including necessary location, protection, and elevation above flood plane.

Senator TRUMAN. That is in the copy that the chairman has before him.

Mr. FLETCHER. I wanted to be sure that that was cleared up.

Senator TRUMAN. I think it is clear language.

Senator OVERTON. What you want to do is to make this amendment applicable to the damage that has been done to the railroads in the recent Midwest floods, is that it?

Mr. FLETCHER. That is right. Of course, by its terms it only says, in part, "by floods in 1943." That is all we are asking for.

Senator OVERTON. Do you want to make these loans applicable to railroads all over the United States?

Mr. FLETCHER. There may be some use of this in the railroads in Illinois. It is the flood of 1943.

Senator TRUMAN. I think it is necessary that it be general, because there are instances in Illinois, Ohio, and Indiana that are not affected along with the southwestern railroads. I was thinking particularly of the southwestern railroads.

Senator OVERTON. I was thinking of the Illinois, the Wabash, the upper Mississippi, the Missouri, the Arkansas, and the White.

Senator TRUMAN. It ought to cover the whole program.

Senator OVERTON. Does it contemplate to cover any railroads in New England that were damaged by prior floods?

Senator TRUMAN. It is not limited to any section of the country.

Mr. FLETCHER. The only limitation is the flood must be in 1943. That is one reason why the amount must be more than \$10,000,000, too, Senator.

Senator TRUMAN. It was not intended to limit it to any one section

Mr. FLETCHER. I was just going to say I have examined this House bill introduced by Congressman Whittington. I should think this amendment, Senator Truman, would be as appropriate in that bill as in the bill introduced by Senator Lucas.

We have some railroad men here, Senator. If you would like to ask them about the details of this matter they would be very glad to answer. If anything is not clear, they could give you the details as to the extent of damages and the amount of interruption of traffic. They are more familiar with the situation than I am.

Senator OVERTON. What this amendment contemplates is contained chiefly, if not altogether, in the phrase, "including necessary relocation, protection, and elevation above flood plane." The word "rehabilitation" is a very broad term.

Senator TRUMAN. It is only intended to refer to the damage done by the floods there.

Senator OVERTON. The damage done by the floods could be overcome under relocation, future protection, and elevation.

Senator TRUMAN. It is also in my mind that if we are going to have comprehensive flood-control planning, which I understand is now on its way to the Congress, the railroad situation would necessarily enter into it, and unless that end of it was properly taken care of we would be stymied again on a complete plan, because there are a great many places in Missouri and in the Southwest where these rivers are clogged by fills that narrow the river, and by bridges that are not high enough to carry the flood water at the proper time. If any of these bridges are now out, it seems to me this is the time to straighten that matter out, while the opportunity is here.

Senator OVERTON. Do either one of you know of a legislative precedent for aid of this kind?

Mr. FLETCHER. To railroads as such?

Senator OVERTON. Yes.

Mr. FLETCHER. I do not know of any.

Senator TRUMAN. I do not think there is any, Mr. Chairman.

Senator OVERTON. All right. I see Mr. Couch here.

Mr. Couch, would you like to make a statement?

Mr. COUCH. Yes.

STATEMENT OF CHARLES PETER COUCH, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, LOUISIANA & ARKANSAS RAILWAY

Senator OVERTON. Mr. Couch, you are connected with the Louisiana & Arkansas Railway; you are chairman of the board, are you not?

Mr. COUCH. Yes, sir; and the Kansas City Southern Railway.

I cannot say very much in addition to what General Reybold has said. As I see it, from the transportation viewpoint, using Kansas City as a base, that whole area in there between Kansas City and Texarkana, Ark., are practically paralyzed. The only way you could get a carload of business from Kansas City going to New Orleans, you would have to send it through St. Louis, Mo., or through Dallas, Tex. At that time the Santa Fe was very much congested, and also the Missouri Pacific.

I think General Reybold will bear me out in this statement, that what we are attempting to do in this amendment will fit right into the flood program.

Senator Truman answered your question about the approval by the War Department. It looks like, Senator, in order to have a dependable transportation to meet these emergencies, some of these railroads are going to have to be relocated and there are also going to have to be some new bridges constructed, which will have to be approved by the War Department.

I am not attempting to say to the Senate committee which railroad it should be, but I do want to impress on the Senate committee that during this emergency as well as the future, there ought to be some transportation system fixed up out to the West and the South, so that regardless of what the flood may be, or what the condition may be, we will be prepared to meet it.

I went all through this area, just as General Reybold did. Fort Smith was paralyzed. We had 16 miles between Spiro, Okla., and Fort Smith that looked like the railroad would have to come out, including the highway.

The point I was trying to get over to you, Senator Overton, you are familiar with the condition down there. You know the program there was that one railroad or two railroads were to be built, and regardless of what the weather condition might be they would be able to furnish that area with transportation service.

The only thing I want to refresh your memory on, we had this flood there in 1927, we had it in 1941, and we do not know just what caused this. We had 2 feet of water over our tracks in 1941, and in 1943 we had 10 feet. We do not know what caused it. General Reybold may know, but I do not know what caused it.

The point I want to get over to you on this program—

This amendment that Senator Truman has submitted is part of the flood program.

Does that cover the questions that you want me to touch on, Judge Fletcher? Or, Senator Overton, does that answer what you want?

Senator OVERTON. I would like to ask you one or two questions. What are the railroads doing now toward repairing the damage?

Mr. COUCH. We are going in there and doing the best we can. I think General Reybold will bear me out in this: It will take from 6 to 8 months on the Kansas City Southern to get back to its normal condition. The part of the railroad I referred to, going into Fort Smith, if the river keeps coming like it is coming, we are going to have to abandon, because it just would not be practical to repair it.

Senator OVERTON. Are all the railroads financially able to do the necessary relocation and repair and elevation?

Mr. COUCH. Senator, I could not speak for the rest of them. I would say the Kansas City Southern could do it.

Senator OVERTON. Could not?

Mr. COUCH. Could do it.

Senator OVERTON. It could do it?

Mr. COUCH. Yes, sir; but the Kansas City Southern is trying to reduce its indebtedness in order that it will have enough to avoid going under 77B.

Now, you recall, too, that the Truman-Hobbs bill provides that wherever you increase navigation or make it possible for more water to go down the river, that the Government will reimburse the railroads for whatever cost they would have to go to. I have not talked to General Reybold, as to what his plan is in regard to flood control.

He may come along and we say, we want you to move the railroad, I don't know, I haven't talked to him, but the point I want to get over to you is the quicker we get some of the railroads fixed, especially the flood commission, the better off the country is going to be. If the war is going to last 5 years, I think the sooner we get the job done the better off we will be from a transportation viewpoint. It will take from 3 to 6 months to get the bridges restored across the rivers.

I can just go ahead and talk to you for an hour about it, but the point I am trying to get over to you, Senator, I think Senator Truman's amendment is appropriate. I think it is part of the flood-control program, it is part of this defense program; and I want to repeat again, Senator Overton, that it is a serious situation down there. We have about 150 miles of railroad that is almost ruined. We had Fort Smith almost in ruins.

Senator OVERTON. Specifically, did this flood interfere very materially with transportation over the railroads?

Mr. COUCH. I will give you two illustrations. First, you know how hard it is for you to get gasoline. We handled from 700 cars a day to 1,000 cars a day out of the Port Arthur area. We diverted the cars through Shreveport. The Illinois Central was pretty well up to its capacity, and the Missouri Pacific was pretty well up to its capacity, and we could not bring the gasoline up through this flood area. We did get some of it up through Little Rock, then on through Memphis on the Frisco. It gets back to the pipe line, and you see what happened to the pipe line.

Senator OVERTON. That flood interfered with the transportation of oil, did it?

Mr. COUCH. Yes, sir.

Senator OVERTON. Substantially?

Mr. COUCH. Yes, sir.

Senator OVERTON. There was a substantial reduction of oil?

Mr. COUCH. Yes.

Senator OVERTON. Did the flood damage interfere also with the transportation of war matériel?

Mr. COUCH. Yes, sir.

Senator OVERTON. And troops?

Mr. COUCH. Yes, sir.

Senator OVERTON. All right.

Mr. COUCH. The other picture I want to draw before you is that, normally speaking, or during this emergency we were running from 10 to 12 trains a day, and today we will average better than 55 trains a day.

I think Judge Fletcher will bear me out in the statement that that situation would apply to the Missouri Pacific and the Illinois Central.

The point I am trying to make to you, if this area is not taken care of in the way of a flood-control program we will be seriously hampered. Generally speaking, when we have these floods we can go around through the neighbors in one way or another, but we did not have any way to go, Senator, in this instance.

Senator OVERTON. Let me ask Judge Fletcher a question.

Judge Fletcher, do you happen to know what is the financial condition of these railroads that have been damaged, as to whether they can, out of their own resources, repair the damages?

Mr. FLETCHER. The Frisco Railroad is involved, and that is in bankruptcy. The M. K. & T. is involved. That is not in bankruptcy, but it is far from being prosperous. The Kansas City Southern, which Mr. Couch has spoken for, is probably the most nearly solvent of those involved. The Midland Railroad is now being reorganized under a modified bankruptcy situation. They probably have cash in their treasury that could be used for this purpose, but I would like to call your attention just as briefly as I can to the general railroad situation, so far as cash is concerned. Railroads are now accumulating a considerable amount of cash in their treasuries, and, as Mr. Couch has said, they are under strong advice, amounting to admonition, from the Interstate Commerce Commission to use it to reduce their indebtedness. The welfare and solvent condition of the railroads in the post-war period will depend on that one thing, whether they can reduce their fixed charges by paying out their indebtedness and thereby reduce the fixed charges.

Furthermore, Senator, I know a large railroad in the East that told me they would like to go into the post-war period with \$100,000,000 in the treasury to take care of what they believe is going to be the fall-off in traffic, the task of changing from the war economy to peace economy. So, these railroads are certainly going to need their cash for the purpose of paying their debts and taking care of contingencies that are now difficult to anticipate. The Interstate Commerce Commission reduced rates not long ago, you know. The labor panel increased the wages by 8 cents. That has been held up, however, by Judge Vinson's order. I do not know what is going to come out of that. So, none of the railroads are in a position where you can say they have an abundance of cash which can be made available for purposes of this sort. The only thing we ask for is that the Government not ask us to pay interest on this money. We expect to pay it back.

Senator OVERTON. Is there anyone else who would like to make a statement on this amendment?

Mr. COUCH. Senator, I would like to make one other statement.

Senator OVERTON. Very well, Mr. Couch.

Mr. COUCH. I want to call your attention to the fact that this has got to be approved by the I. C. C. as well as the R. F. C., and this loan will be covered by ample collateral.

Senator OVERTON. And it will also be approved by the War Department.

Mr. COUCH. By the War Department, the I. C. C., and you know they will ask us to put up ample collateral.

Mr. FLETCHER. By the way, Senator, the R. F. C. is getting back pretty near all the money it loaned to the railroads. It used to be said in one quarter or another that a lot of money would be lost on the railroads. I think they will make a lot of money on this railroad deal.

Senator OVERTON. Does anybody else want to make a statement on this matter?

Senator TRUMAN. Mr. Chairman, I would like to say in reference to the whole bill that I am completely in agreement with Senator Lucas on the object for which this legislation is under consideration.

The Missouri Valley and Arkansas Valley I believe are the most completely damaged. There is more damage to crops in those two valleys than anywhere else, except in Senator Lucas' area on the Illinois and Wabash Rivers. This is an emergency, and I think it should be put through as expeditiously as possible, and I sincerely hope the amendment which I have submitted will also be carefully considered and left in the bill.

Senator OVERTON. Off the record for a moment.

(Discussion was had outside the record.)

Senator OVERTON. I think that completes the hearings.

(Whereupon, at 11:45 a. m., the committee adjourned.)

(The following was submitted for the record:)

The subcommittee of the Commerce Committee to whom was referred the bill (S. 1134) to amend section 5 of the Flood Control Act, approved August 18, 1941, having considered and amended the same, agreed to report favorably to the full committee the following amendments:

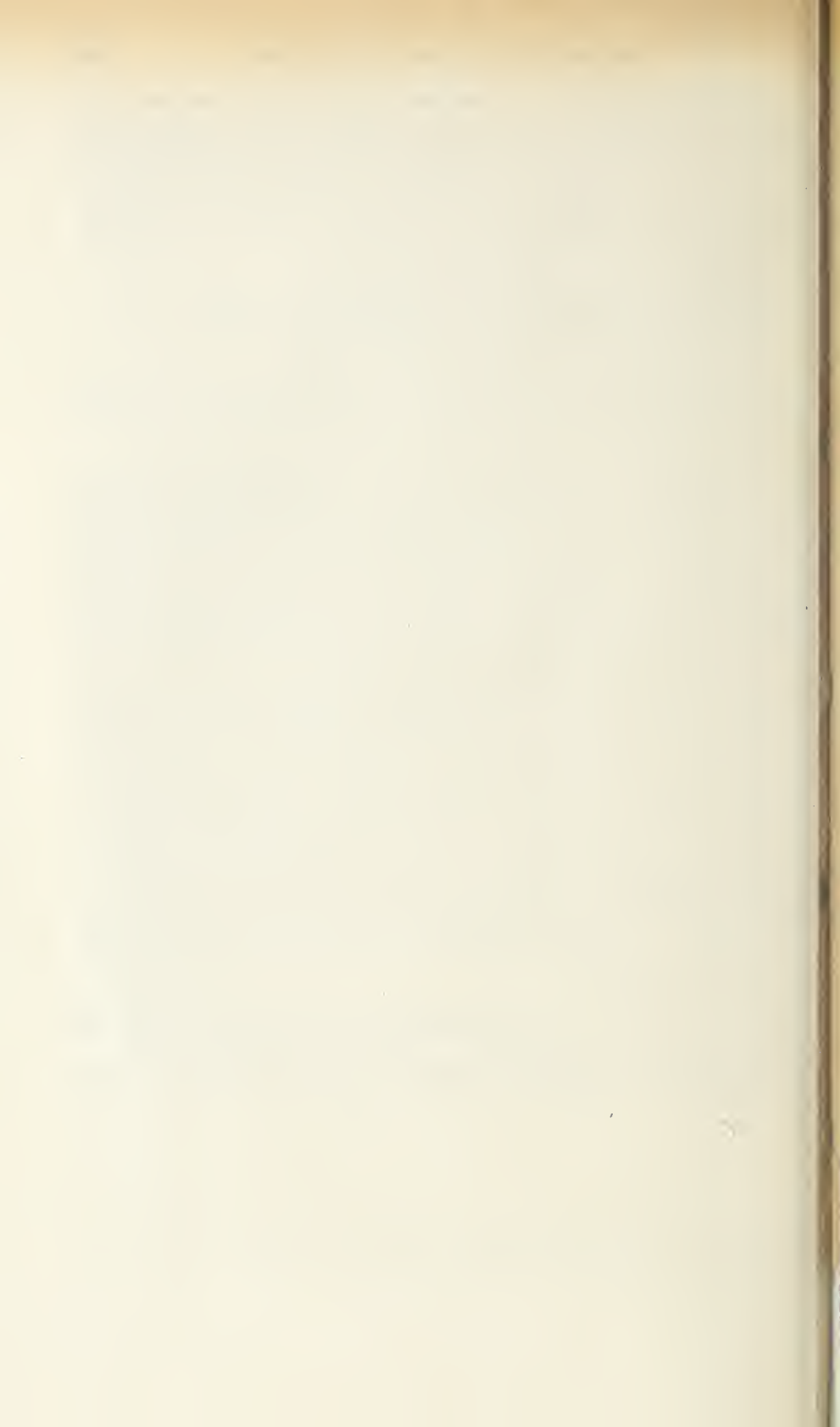
Strike out all after the enacting clause and substitute the following:

"That the sum of \$10,000,000 is hereby authorized to be appropriated as an emergency fund to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers for the repair, restoration, and strengthening of levees and other flood-control works which have been threatened or destroyed by the recent floods: *Provided*, That pending the appropriation of said sum the Secretary of War may allot from existing flood-control appropriations such sums as may be necessary for the immediate prosecution of the work herein authorized, such appropriations to be reimbursed from the appropriation herein authorized when made; *Provided further*, That funds allotted under this authority shall not be diverted from the unobligated funds from the appropriation "Flood control, general," made available in the War Department Civil Appropriation Act, 1944, for specific purposes therein enumerated.

"Sec. 2. In order to aid in the rehabilitation, including necessary relocation, protection, and elevation above flood plane, of railroads engaged in interstate commerce whose properties have been destroyed or damaged in whole or in part by flood in 1943, the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, with the approval of the Interstate Commerce Commission, is authorized to make rehabilitation loan or loans to any such railroad or to the receivers or trustees thereof in such manner, upon such terms and conditions, and with such security as the Corporation may prescribe; except that each such loan shall bear no interest and shall contain provisions for the amortization thereof over a period of not to exceed forty years. The total amount of loans and commitments to railroads, receivers, and trustees under this section shall not exceed at any one time \$25,000,000. The amount of note, bond, debenture, and other such obligation which the Corporation is authorized and empowered to issue and to have outstanding at any one time under existing law is hereby increased by an amount sufficient to carry out the provision of this section. The proceeds of any loan made pursuant to this section shall be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers.

"Sec. 3. The provisions of this Act shall be deemed to be additional and supplemental to, and not in lieu of, existing general legislation authorizing allocation of flood-control funds for restoration of flood-control works threatened or destroyed by flood."

Amend the title so as to read "To provide for emergency flood-control work made necessary by recent floods, and other purposes."





EMERGENCY FLOOD CONTROL WORKS

JUNE 28 (legislative day, MAY 24), 1943.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. OVERTON, from the Committee on Commerce, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 1134]

The Committee on Commerce, to whom was referred the bill (S. 1134) to amend section 5 of the Flood Control Act, approved August 18, 1941, having considered and amended the same, report favorably thereon and recommend that the bill, as amended, do pass.

The committee amended the bill as follows:

(1) Strike out all after the enacting clause and substitute the following:

That the sum of \$10,000,000 is hereby authorized to be appropriated as an emergency fund to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers for the repair, restoration, and strengthening of levees and other flood-control works which have been threatened or destroyed by the recent floods: *Provided*, That pending the appropriation of said sum the Secretary of War may allot from existing flood-control appropriations such sums as may be necessary for the immediate prosecution of the work herein authorized, such appropriations to be reimbursed from the appropriation herein authorized when made: *Provided further*, That funds allotted under this authority shall not be diverted from the unobligated funds from the appropriation "Flood control, general," made available in the War Department Civil Appropriation Act, 1944, for specific purposes therein enumerated.

SEC. 2. In order to aid in the rehabilitation, including necessary relocation, protection, and elevation above flood plane, of railroads engaged in interstate commerce whose properties have been destroyed or damaged in whole or in part by flood in 1943, the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, with the approval of the Interstate Commerce Commission, is authorized to make rehabilitation loan or loans to any such railroad or to the receivers or trustees thereof in such manner upon such terms and conditions and with such security as the Corporation may prescribe; except that each such loan shall bear no interest and shall contain provisions for the amortization thereof over a period of not to exceed forty years. The total amount of loans and commitments to railroads, receivers, and trustees under this section shall not exceed at any one time \$25,000,000. The amount of note, bond, debenture, and other such obligation which the Corporation is authorized and empowered to issue and to have outstanding at any one time under existing law is hereby increased by an amount sufficient to carry out the provision of this section. The proceeds of any loan made pursuant to this section shall be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers.

SEC. 3. The provisions of this Act shall be deemed to be additional and supplemental to, and not in lieu of, existing general legislation authorizing allocation of flood-control funds for restoration of flood-control works threatened or destroyed by flood.

(2) Amend the title so as to read:

A bill to provide for emergency flood-control work made necessary by recent floods, and for other purposes.

The devastating effect of recent floods in the upper Mississippi and on the Illinois, Wabash, Missouri, Arkansas, and White Rivers, is well known and there is no controversy insofar as this committee is advised as to the urgent necessity of authorizing the appropriation of an emergency fund of \$10,000,000 to repair the damage to flood-control works on these various streams, and to strengthen levees and other flood-control works which have been threatened or destroyed by these floods. Several bills were introduced in the House to meet the emergency created by this disaster. The House Flood Control Committee considered the various bills and reported to the House a bill which in sections 1 and 3 is identical with the bill as amended by the Senate Committee on Commerce and presented with this report.

General Reybold, Chief of the Army Engineers, testified that the bill as reported by the Flood Control Committee of the House will better effectuate the purposes of the Lucas bill than the original Lucas bill as referred to the committee. Therefore, the committee has followed the language of the bill reported by the House committee with respect to the \$10,000,000 authorization.

The junior Senator from Missouri (Mr. Truman) offered an amendment to S. 1134 which is contained in section 2 of the bill as amended and reported. Section 2 provides for the rehabilitation, including necessary relocation, protection, and elevation above flood plane, of railroads engaged in interstate commerce whose properties have been destroyed or damaged in whole or in part by the 1943 flood, under loans to be made by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation with the approval of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and with such security as the Reconstruction Finance Corporation may prescribe; but each loan shall bear no interest and shall contain provisions for its amortization over a period not to exceed 40 years. The total of the railroad loans shall not exceed at any one time \$25,000,000. The proceeds of any loan shall be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers; it being contemplated that plans for the reconstruction, repair, and elevation above flood plane, of railroads shall be under the direction and supervision of the Chief of Engineers and approved by the Secretary of War.

The testimony before the committee showed that a number of railroads traversing the flooded area had been seriously damaged by the floodwaters; notably the Frisco Railroad, the Missouri, Kansas & Texas, the Kansas City Southern, and the Midland Valley Railroad. The floods and resulting damage to the railroads have seriously interfered with the transportation of troops, munitions, war matériel, and other war efforts. It is necessary that the rehabilitation of these railroads begin at once in order that their transportation facilities may be fully used as rapidly as possible in the war effort. Testimony shows that the Frisco Railroad is in bankruptcy; that the Missouri, Kansas

& Texas, while not in bankruptcy, is far from being prosperous; that the Midland Valley Railroad is being reorganized under a modified bankruptcy proceeding. The evidence further shows that railroads are operating under advice, amounting to admonition, of the Interstate Commerce Commission to use all cash possible to reduce their indebtedness in order to reduce their fixed charges and be prepared to meet the impact of the falling off in business during the post-war period.

The amendment with respect to aiding the railroads is applicable to all railroads throughout the United States that have been or may be affected by flood damages during the year 1943.

Since the provision of the Lucas bill, as amended, requires the immediate consideration of the Congress, the committee has acted on the Truman amendment (sec. 2 of the bill as reported) without any report thereon being submitted by the Secretary of War, the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, or the Interstate Commerce Commission, to all of whom the bill was referred for report.

The report of the War Department on the Lucas bill is as follows:

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, June 19, 1943.

HON. JOSIAH W. BAILEY,
*Chairman, Committee on Commerce,
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.*

DEAR SENATOR BAILEY: Reference is made to your letter of May 28, 1943, requesting a report on S. 1134, to amend section 5 of the Flood Control Act, approved August 18, 1941.

During the months of April and May just past floods of unusual severity occurred in various sections of the country, resulting in the breaking and destruction of many levee systems and other works constructed by local communities for protection from floods, much damage to private property, and some loss of life. In the Missouri, Mississippi, Illinois, and Arkansas Rivers, and their tributary streams, these floods were especially destructive, reaching in some cases a volume and stage exceeding those of any maximum floods of record. It is the view of the Department that the repair and reconstruction of the destroyed flood-protective works should be undertaken without undue delay in order that local communities may be relieved from the danger of constantly recurring minor floods, and that reconstruction should include such improvement in the works as may be found necessary to afford better protection from future major floods.

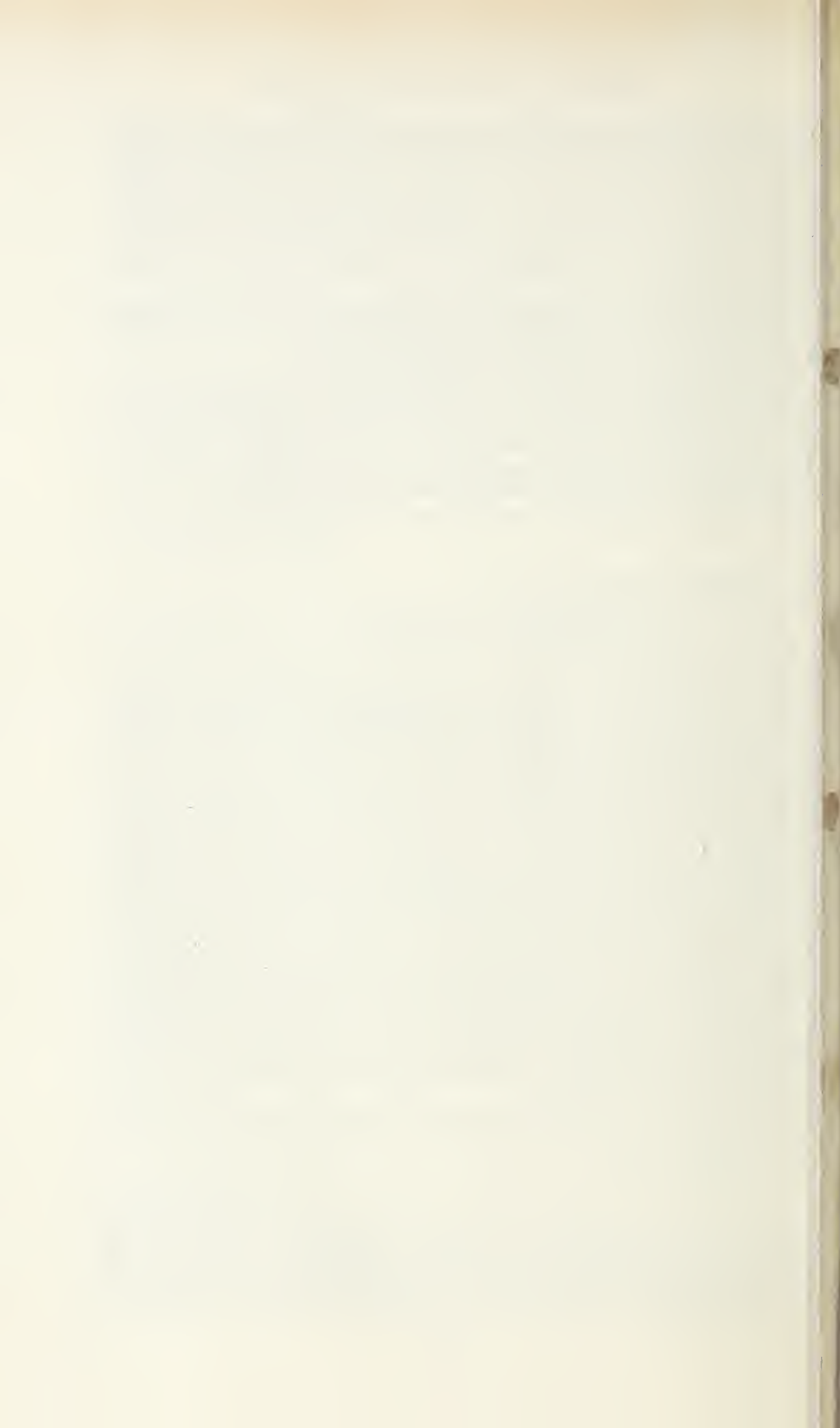
Section 5 of the act of August 18, 1941, authorizes the Secretary of War to allot from flood-control appropriations, for expenditure on work of this kind, not to exceed \$1,000,000 for any one fiscal year. This sum is entirely inadequate to meet the needs of the existing emergency. The purpose of the resolution is to so amend this section as to remove the present limitation on expenditures and permit a larger amount to be expended when, in the judgment of the Secretary of War and Chief of Engineers, emergent flood conditions require it. Legislation to authorize the expenditure of a larger sum to meet the present emergency is believed to be warrantable in the public interest, and if S. 1134 is amended as indicated on a copy of the same herewith the Department recommends its favorable consideration by Congress.

A similar report on H. J. Res. 132, an identical bill, was submitted to the Bureau of the Budget, which advises that there is no objection to the submission of the report.

Sincerely yours,

HENRY L. STIMSON,
Secretary of War.

Reference is made to the report submitted by the Flood Control Committee of the House on H. R. 3010, which gives interesting information as to the widespread damage caused by the recent flood and the necessity for immediate relief to be provided by the Congress.



Calendar No. 369

78TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1134

[Report No. 360]

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 27 (legislative day, MAY 24), 1943

Mr. LUCAS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce

JUNE 28 (legislative day, MAY 24), 1943

Reported by Mr. OVERTON, with amendments

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

A BILL

To amend section 5 of the Flood Control Act, approved August 18, 1941.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That section 5 of the Act entitled "An Act authorizing the
4 construction of certain public works on rivers and harbors
5 for flood control, and for other purposes", approved August
6 18, 1941, is hereby amended to read as follows:

7 "SEC. 5. The Secretary of War is hereby authorized to
8 allot, from any appropriations heretofore or hereafter made
9 for flood control, such sums as may be necessary during any
10 fiscal year for expenditure in rescue work, in the repair or

1 maintenance of any flood-control work threatened or de-
2 stroyed by flood, for improvements to any such flood-
3 control work, and for necessary flood-control measures where
4 the Secretary of War, upon the recommendation of the Chief
5 of Engineers, determines that an emergency exists."

6 *That the sum of \$10,000,000 is hereby authorized to be*
7 *appropriated as an emergency fund to be expended under*
8 *the direction of the Secretary of War and the supervision*
9 *of the Chief of Engineers for the repair, restoration, and*
10 *strengthening of levees and other flood-control works which*
11 *have been threatened or destroyed by the recent floods:*
12 *Provided, That pending the appropriation of said sum the*
13 *Secretary of War may allot from existing flood-control*
14 *appropriations such sums as may be necessary for the im-*
15 *mediate prosecution of the work herein authorized, such*
16 *appropriations to be reimbursed from the appropriation*
17 *herein authorized when made: Provided further, That funds*
18 *allotted under this authority shall not be diverted from the*
19 *unobligated funds from the appropriation "Flood control,*
20 *general", made available in the War Department Civil*
21 *Appropriation Act, 1944, for specific purposes therein*
22 *enumerated.*

23 *SEC. 2. In order to aid in the rehabilitation, including*
24 *necessary relocation, protection, and elevation above flood*

1 plane, of railroads engaged in interstate commerce whose
2 properties have been destroyed or damaged in whole or in
3 part by flood in 1943, the Reconstruction Finance Corpora-
4 tion, with the approval of the Interstate Commerce Com-
5 mission, is authorized to make rehabilitation loan or loans
6 to any such railroad or to the receivers or trustees thereof
7 in such manner upon such terms and conditions and with
8 such security as the corporation may prescribe; except that each
9 such loan shall bear no interest and shall contain provisions
10 for the amortization thereof over a period of not to exceed
11 forty years. The total amount of loans and commitments
12 to railroads, receivers, and trustees under this section shall
13 not exceed at any one time \$25,000,000. The amount of note,
14 bond, debenture, and other such obligation which the corpora-
15 tion is authorized and empowered to issue and to have out-
16 standing at any one time under existing law is hereby
17 increased by an amount sufficient to carry out the provision
18 of this section. The proceeds of any loan made pursuant
19 to this section shall be expended under the direction of the
20 Secretary of War and the supervision of the Chief of
21 Engineers.

22 SEC. 3. The provisions of this Act shall be deemed
23 to be additional and supplemental to, and not in lieu of,
24 existing general legislation authorizing allocation of flood-

- 1 *control funds for restoration of flood-control works threatened*
- 2 *or destroyed by flood.*

Amend the title so as to read: "A bill to provide for emergency flood-control work made necessary by recent floods, and other purposes."

Calendar No. 369

78TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1134

[Report No. 360]

A BILL

To amend section 5 of the Flood Control Act,
approved August 18, 1941.

By Mr. Lucas

MAY 27 (legislative day, MAY 24), 1943

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce

JUNE 28 (legislative day, MAY 24), 1943

Reported with amendments



poned until the 15th of November. Of course, it is true that if the President should send the nominations of these three men to the Senate for confirmation and they should be confirmed, the men would continue to be employees of the United States. I do not think that would change the principle upon which we are now being called upon to pass. Regardless of how the Senate may vote on the conference report, my views as to the viciousness of the principle involved in the proposed legislation will not be altered.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The question is on agreeing to the conference report.

Mr. LANGER, and Mr. CLARK of Missouri asked for the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. MEAD. Mr. President, as one deeply interested in Federal employees, having manifested my interest on many occasions, I regret the delay in the vote on the conference report. However, on this particular issue the Senate has spoken emphatically and decisively. When the Senate spoke it had in mind that the principle underlying this issue was deeper than the question of the removal of three men.

Mr. President, as a member of the subcommittee and of the full committee of the Senate which had the opportunity to consider this question, I wish to say that I could never subscribe to the procedure which has been adopted. I am being called upon to pass judgment—execution, if you will—upon three men who never had an opportunity to come before our subcommittee, who never had an opportunity to plead their case before our full committee, and who have never had an opportunity to appear before the subcommittee or the full committee of the other House. I have heard a great deal about military secrets, and about the necessity of keeping them in order that we might take advantage of the enemy, or, rather, in order that the enemy might not take advantage of us. But why, in the name of God, must we adopt a legislative secret in order to separate three men from the Government pay roll? Why not bring the issue out in the open?

Mr. President, this is a democracy, and free speech is one of the underlying principles of democracy. Free speech is not yet dead, and in my judgment we are about to determine in the Senate that it is very much alive.

Mr. President, this question can be settled today. We can send the bill back to conference, and the conferees can submit another report before the day is over. If that procedure cannot be followed, another deficiency bill is en route, and we can put in that deficiency bill a pay item pertaining to Federal employees. We are not called upon to pass judgment upon these three men at this time; and we should not do so until we hear the testimony and proceed in the American way.

Mr. McKELLAR. Mr. President, may I say that it is true, as the Senator from New York has suggested, that a pay provision could be put in the forthcoming deficiency bill, regardless of the three

men. However, the House conferees stated that a similar provision with respect to the three men would be attached to that bill. That would result not only in a failure to enact the provisions of this bill, but also a failure to enact the other deficiency bill. In other words, the House conferees stated that they would stand right where they were. It is merely a question of whether we want to stand where we are and not have any bill.

Mr. MEAD. Mr. President, we are not responsible for the unreasonableness of anyone but ourselves.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The question is on agreeing to the conference report. The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The Chief Clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REVERCOMB. Mr. President, a parliamentary inquiry.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Senator will state it.

Mr. REVERCOMB. To vote "yea" is to vote to agree to the report, is it not?

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Senator is correct.

The Chief Clerk resumed and concluded the call of the roll.

Mr. BRIDGES (after having voted in the negative). I have a general pair with the Senator from Utah [Mr. THOMAS]. Not knowing how he would vote on this question I transfer that pair to the Senator from New Jersey [Mr. BARBOUR] and let my vote stand.

Mr. McNARY. The Senator from Vermont [Mr. AUSTIN] and the Senator from Ohio [Mr. BURTON] are absent as members of the special committee of the Senate attending a meeting of the Canada branch of the Empire Parliamentary Association at Ottawa, Canada.

The Senator from New Jersey [Mr. BARBOUR], the Senator from Maine [Mr. BREWSTER] and the Senator from Idaho [Mr. THOMAS] are necessarily absent.

The Senator from South Dakota [Mr. BUSHFIELD] is absent on official business as a member of the Indian Affairs Committee.

The Senator from New Hampshire [Mr. TOBEY] and the Senator from Wisconsin [Mr. WILEY] are absent on official business.

The Senator from California [Mr. JOHNSON] is absent because of illness.

The Senator from Vermont [Mr. AUSTIN] has a general pair with the Senator from Texas [Mr. CONNALLY].

Mr. HILL. I announce that the Senator from Louisiana [Mr. ELLENDER] and the Senator from Virginia [Mr. GLASS] are absent from the Senate because of illness.

The Senator from Massachusetts [Mr. WALSH] is absent attending the funeral of his brother.

The Senator from Texas [Mr. CONNALLY] is a member of the special committee of the Senate attending a meeting of the Empire Parliamentary Association at Ottawa, Canada, and is therefore necessarily absent.

The Senator from Washington [Mr. BONE], the Senator from Florida [Mr. PEPPER], and the Senator from Utah [Mr. THOMAS] are detained in Government

departments on matters pertaining to their respective States. I am advised that if present and voting, the Senator from Washington [Mr. BONE] and the Senator from Florida [Mr. PEPPER] would vote "nay."

The Senator from Tennessee [Mr. STEWART] is detained in a meeting of the Special Committee to Study and Survey Problems of Small Business Enterprises. I am advised that if present, he would vote "yea."

The Senator from North Carolina [Mr. BAILEY] and the Senator from Idaho [Mr. CLARK] are detained on important public business.

The Senator from Iowa [Mr. GILLETTE] is necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 31, nays 43, as follows:

YEAS—31

Andrews	Holman	Reed
Bankhead	Johnson, Colo.	Reynolds
Bilbo	Lodge	Russell
Byrd	McCarran	Scruggs
Capper	McClellan	Smith
Caraway	McFarland	Thomas, Okla.
Chavez	McKellar	Tydings
Eastland	McNary	Vandenberg
George	Maybank	White
Gurney	Nye	
Hayden	O'Daniel	

NAYS—43

Alken	Hatch	Revercomb
Ball	Hawkes	Robertson
Barkley	Hill	Shipstead
Bridges	Kilgore	Taft
Brooks	La Follette	Truman
Butler	Langer	Tunnell
Chandler	Lucas	Van Nuys
Clark, Mo.	Maloney	Wagner
Danaher	Mead	Wallgren
Davis	Millikin	Wheeler
Downey	Murdock	Wherry
Ferguson	Murray	Willis
Gerry	O'Mahoney	Wilson
Green	Overton	
Guffey	Radcliffe	

NOT VOTING—22

Austin	Clark, Idaho	Stewart
Bailey	Connally	Thomas, Idaho
Barbour	Ellender	Thomas, Utah
Bone	Gillette	Tobey
Brewster	Glass	Walsh
Buck	Johnson, Calif.	Wiley
Burton	Moore	
Bushfield	Pepper	

So the report was rejected.

Mr. McKELLAR. I move that the Senate insist on its amendments still in disagreement, request a further conference with the House of Representatives thereon, and that the Chair appoint the conferees on the part of the Senate at the further conference.

The motion was agreed to; and the Vice President appointed Mr. McKELLAR, Mr. GLASS, Mr. HAYDEN, Mr. TYDINGS, Mr. RUSSELL, Mr. NYE, and Mr. LODGE conferees on the part of the Senate at the further conference.

Mr. PEPPER subsequently said: Mr. President, I should like to state for the RECORD that when the vote was had a little while ago on agreeing to the conference report on House bill 2714, I was in consultation with certain governmental officials relative to some matters of importance pertaining to my State, and I was unable to be in the Chamber. Had I been present, I would have voted not to agree to the recommendation of the conferees relative to certain Federal employees, namely, Goodwin B. Watson, William E. Dodd, Jr., and Robert Morss Lovett. I do not think the manner in

which this question has been approached is a fair protection of the civil rights of these men, or wholesome legislation.

REPAIR OF DAMAGE CAUSED BY FLOODS

Mr. OVERTON. Mr. President, we are all familiar with the devastation caused by the recent floods in the upper Mississippi, the Illinois, the Wabash, the Missouri, the Arkansas, and the White Rivers. It is necessary that the work of repairing the damage should be done at once.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. President, may we have a little order in the Senate?

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Chair asks the Senate to be in order. It is not in order.

Mr. OVERTON. Mr. President, the Chief of Engineers has testified that it is very necessary that the work of restoring the broken levees and of strengthening those which have been impaired be very promptly undertaken, and he has already made plans to carry that work into execution.

I desire, therefore, to ask unanimous consent for the consideration of a bill introduced by the Senator from Illinois [Mr. Lucas] dealing with that subject matter. When the bill is passed, which I think can be done, let me say, in a very few minutes—

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. President, I rise to a point of order. I maintain the Senate is not in order. This is an important measure, and I desire to hear the discussion.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Senator from Illinois is correct. The Senate has not been and is not in order. The Chair requests the Senate to be in order.

Mr. OVERTON. Mr. President, it is necessary that the bill be passed, in order that there may be an appropriation made in the forthcoming deficiency appropriation bill. The authorization is for \$10,000,000 and unless the Senate passes the bill the appropriation cannot be made.

The bill introduced by the Senator from Illinois was amended by the Committee on Commerce. There is only one controversial feature in reference to the amendment suggested by the Committee on Commerce, and that controversy has been amicably settled.

Mr. McNARY. Mr. President, there is a rule of the Senate providing that Senators must occupy their seats or leave the Chamber. There is conversation going on so that I cannot understand what is happening.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Chair requests that Senators occupy their seats.

Mr. OVERTON. The Senator—

Mr. McNARY. Mr. President, I want the order enforced.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Senate will be in order.

Mr. OVERTON. May I now proceed?

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. OVERTON. The junior Senator from Missouri [Mr. TRUMAN] offered an amendment, which is in section 2 of the bill, authorizing loans to be made by the R. F. C., with the approval of the Interstate Commerce Commission and under

the direction and supervision of the Secretary of War and the Chief of Engineers, to railroads whose tracks have been damaged or wiped out as a result of the recent floods.

Mr. AIKEN. Mr. President—

Mr. OVERTON. Will the Senator permit me to explain? It will take but a moment.

Mr. AIKEN. I wish to know the number of the bill.

Mr. OVERTON. Senate bill 1134.

Mr. AIKEN. Is it on the calendar?

Mr. OVERTON. Yes.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will state the bill by title.

The CHIEF CLERK. A bill (S. 1134) to amend section 5 of the Flood-Control Act, approved August 18, 1941.

Mr. OVERTON. The objection raised to the provision for loans to the railroads was that it was provided that the loans should be made without interest. The settlement of this controversial provision has been effected, I understand, with the Senator from Missouri, and an amendment will be offered which will provide that interest at the rate of 3 percent per annum shall be charged on such loans.

Mr. President, with this brief explanation, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of the bill.

Mr. McNARY. Before consent is granted, if at all, I should like to make a very brief statement, which I feel morally bound to make.

I favored the bill, but on Friday, when the very able Senator from Oklahoma [Mr. THOMAS] asked that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the Military Establishment appropriation bill, I objected because the hearings had not been printed. At the same time I told the Senator that I should be willing to have that bill follow the bill which has just been recommitted to the conference.

I do not wish to consent to the consideration of the bill in which the Senator from Louisiana is interested, a legislative bill, when I promised that the Military Establishment appropriation bill might have the right of way. If the Senator from Oklahoma does not wish to exercise his right, I have no objection, but I am carrying out the promise I made and the understanding had on Friday and Saturday. If the Senator from Oklahoma desires the right of way to take up the Military Establishment appropriation bill, I shall object to the pending request. If the Senator is unconcerned about the matter I have fulfilled my duty.

Mr. OVERTON. The difference between the two bills is that there will be no trouble in disposing of the War Department appropriation bill, but in order to obtain an appropriation and proceed with this necessary work it is necessary to an authorization, and if an authorization is not now provided it will be too late.

Mr. McNARY. I understand the parliamentary situation, I know the necessity of having an authorization bill precede an appropriation bill, but that does not touch the moral aspects of the situation. I ask the Senator from Oklahoma whether he desires that the bill

referred to by the Senator from Louisiana precede the bill he has in charge.

Mr. OVERTON. If I may make another observation before the Senator from Oklahoma proceeds, I think Senate bill 1134 can be disposed of in 5 minutes after the unanimous consent request is granted.

Mr. THOMAS of Oklahoma. Mr. President, as chairman of the subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations having in charge the War Department appropriation bill, I am ready to proceed with the consideration of the bill, but the bill sponsored by the Senator from Louisiana affects a flood-control area which embraces my State. So, personally, I am interested on behalf of my State, I may say for the benefit of the Senator from Oregon, and I should be very glad to have Senate bill 1134 acted on first.

Mr. McNARY. I have no objection.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Is there objection to the present consideration of the bill? The Chair hears none.

Mr. McCARRAN. A point of order.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Senator will state it.

Mr. McCARRAN. I was engaged in a very inaudible conversation when this matter was presented. My point of order is that yesterday House bill 2935, an appropriation bill, was made the unfinished business for today. In that event it is the unfinished business, and should be proceeded with and disposed of before anything else is taken up. I make the point of order that House bill 2935 now has precedence on the floor.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Senator from Louisiana asked for unanimous consent. Unanimous consent having been granted, the Senator from Louisiana has the right-of-way.

Mr. McCARRAN. I do not understand unanimous consent to have been granted. I certainly would not have consented to the request if I had known of it. I cannot consent to it now, if it is not too late. I was on the floor and on my feet attempting to get the attention of the Chair.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Chair feels that the Senator from Nevada should not be placed at a disadvantage because the Chair did not happen to be looking in his direction at the moment.

Mr. McCARRAN. I think it will not take over 5 minutes to dispose of the all-important appropriation bill, which must go to conference and must be acted on before midnight. I have conferred with the Senator from Missouri, and the point he was about to raise I understand will not be raised, so that we can dispose of the bill.

Mr. McNARY. May I inquire of the able Senator to what bill he is referring?

Mr. McCARRAN. The bill we have been dealing with is House bill 2935, making appropriations for the Labor Department and Federal Security Agency. All that has to be done is to consider an amendment which will be offered by the junior Senator from Missouri [Mr. TRUMAN], and the passage of the bill.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The Chair would not like to be placed in the posi-

tion of being too hasty in stating that unanimous consent had been obtained when the fact was that it was not obtained.

Mr. OVERTON. If the Senator from Nevada will yield, may I have his cooperation in having Senate bill 1134 passed, or acted upon by the Senate, by 3 o'clock this afternoon?

Mr. McCARRAN. Certainly, the Senator will have my cooperation in every way. I wish to say to the Senator that he has my cooperation, but I feel it is my responsibility to have House bill 2935 considered, so that it may go to the House and be enacted into law.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Objection has been raised.

Mr. OVERTON. Mr. President, I modify my unanimous-consent request, and ask that immediately after the passage of the pending bill, and at not later than 3 o'clock this afternoon, the Senate proceed to the consideration of Senate bill 1134.

The VICE PRESIDENT. Is there objection to the request of the Senator from Louisiana?

Mr. McNARY. I think we will be ready to take the bill up in 5 or 10 minutes, and I suggest that the Senator say "at or before 3 o'clock."

Mr. OVERTON. I said "at not later than 3 o'clock."

The VICE PRESIDENT. Is there objection? The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered.

Mr. McCARRAN. In order to clarify the record and in order that the Chair may feel in no wise responsible, I wish to say that when the unanimous-consent proposal was made I was not attending to what was proceeding on the floor, I am very sorry to say, and the Chair was not to blame.

I now ask that the Senate resume the consideration of House bill 2935.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE LABOR DEPARTMENT AND FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill (H. R. 2935) making appropriations for the Department of Labor, the Federal Security Agency, and related independent agencies, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1944, and for other purposes.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The bill is open to further amendment.

Mr. TRUMAN. Mr. President, I wish to ask the able Senator from Nevada if he will not take a small item to conference which had to do with the first part of the bill when we were considering it. It is a small administrative item which affects the office of the Secretary of Labor. It amounts to \$34,000, and a very good case was made for it in the record of the committee. If agreed to the amendment would make the total appropriation for personal services in the District of Columbia \$386,000, instead of \$352,000. I ask the Senator from Nevada if he will not take it to conference for consideration.

Mr. McNARY. What is the figure the Senator wants increased?

Mr. TRUMAN. The appropriation now in the bill is \$352,000, and the increase

asked is \$34,000, making the total appropriation \$386,000. It is a matter of administration in the District of Columbia, and if the increase is not granted, possibly the Department will be crippled in carrying out the mandates of the remainder of the bill.

Mr. McNARY. Was the appropriation refused by the House committee?

Mr. TRUMAN. The figure in the bill, \$352,000, is the amount placed in it by the House committee.

Mr. McNARY. Was the Senator's proposal made to the Senate committee when it had the bill under study?

Mr. TRUMAN. No; it was not made to the full committee. The committee became involved in an argument, and the matter was overlooked. I am now asking the Senator from Nevada if he will take the amendment to conference for consideration there.

Mr. McCARRAN. Let me say to the Senator from Oregon that this item is within the Budget estimate, but the House did not allow it, and the Senate committee did not allow it. At the same time there may be justification for it, and I announce that I am willing to take it to conference.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The question is on agreeing to the amendment offered by the Senator from Missouri [Mr. TRUMAN].

The amendment was agreed to.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The bill is open to further amendment.

Mr. LA FOLLETTE. Mr. President, I offer an amendment on page 65 to strike out all of line 3 and down to and including line 19.

Mr. President, I will make a brief statement concerning the situation involved. Senators are probably familiar with the fact that the United States Employment Service was taken over by the Federal Government after we entered the war, or it may have been taken over some time shortly prior to that. There has been a feeling or fear that because the Federal Government has taken this operating agency over for the duration of war, it might be a permanent move, and the House has been incorporating a prohibition against using any of the moneys to increase the salaries of any of the individuals in the United States Employment Service.

This organization, as Senators will realize, is the operating agency in dealing with the war manpower problem in the field. The result of this prohibition has been that although the employees in question are now in the Federal service, their salaries have still remained at the lower State level. The result is, for example, that if a stenographic examination is held in my State, and a number of persons pass it, they are immediately offered starting salaries in every other agency and branch of the Federal Government greatly in excess of the starting salary which can be paid in this particular agency, because in it the State salary level prevails.

Mr. President, I am satisfied there is no real issue in this item insofar as the question is concerned as to whether this agency is to be taken over permanently

by the Federal Government. The only question is whether this very important arm of the War Manpower Commission shall be saved from the raiding of its personnel which has been going on by other Federal agencies. The turn-over in the various States of the Union varies, as I recall, anywhere from 25 to as high as 300 percent. It is obvious that this very important functioning agency of the War Manpower Commission should not be subjected to such crippling of its efficiency. Therefore, I trust that the Senator from Nevada will be willing to take this amendment to conference, and to give the matter serious consideration there.

Mr. McCARRAN. Mr. President, this matter has been discussed by the Appropriations Committee for 2 and perhaps 3 years, and it has been turned down by the Appropriations Committee on each occasion. It was turned down again on the present occasion. In other words, the language placed in the bill by the House has been sustained by the Appropriations Committee of the Senate, and I cannot take the Senator's proposed amendment to conference.

Mr. LA FOLLETTE. Mr. President, I merely wish to say for the RECORD that at a time when we have a shortage of manpower and a manpower crisis in this country I think it is a tragic mistake to have the operating arm, the management arm, the functioning arm of the War Manpower Commission, in attempting to deal with this critical situation, partially paralyzed because of this restriction. If at the end of the war we want the United States Employment Service returned to its previous status it can be done by legislation, but in the meantime let us permit it to function efficiently, and not hamper it simply because there is opposition to permanent federalization of this service.

What harm can it do to permit these individuals to receive the same levels of salaries paid in the other branches of the Federal Government? What harm can that do, so far as concerns the ultimate issue of deciding what disposition shall be made of the administrative agency in question? Congress will always have the power to legislate on that subject in the future. But now in the midst of this terrible war, when every Senator knows that manpower is one of our most serious problems, it is a great mistake to take this attitude simply because it has some indirect bearing on whether in the future this agency is to be at the Federal level or not. That is a question we can always determine.

Mr. HILL. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. LA FOLLETTE. I yield.

Mr. HILL. I wish to say that I agree with the Senator from Wisconsin. I do not think the Senator's amendment involves a question as to whether when the war is over these employment services will go back to the States. Frankly, I feel they should go back to the States, and I think it is very likely that they will go back to the States. But I wish to say that I have the honor to be a member of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs, and that committee has

held very extensive hearings on the question of manpower. When I say "extensive hearings," the fact is that we have been holding hearings on the subject of manpower from last October until 2 weeks ago. All through those hearings representatives of the War Manpower Commission, when asked why they did not do this or why they did not do that, spoke of how the work of the Manpower Commission is now crippled and impaired because of the enormous turn-over in the personnel of these offices. As the Senator from Wisconsin has said, these offices of the Employment Service constitute the machinery through which the Manpower Commission has to operate and does operate. This machinery is greatly crippled and impaired because it is not now possible to keep efficient persons in the service of the employment offices.

According to the testimony before the committee, the minute one of the offices employs a capable person, that person is given the opportunity to obtain a job in some Federal agency at a higher rate of pay for doing the same kind of work, and, of course, he does what we would do, or what anyone else would do, and naturally takes the job which provides the higher pay. One of the most serious problems now confronting the War Manpower Commission as testified by Governor McNutt, and attested by practically every other representative of the Manpower Commission who has appeared before the Military Affairs Committee, is the problem of not being able to retain capable and efficient personnel in these offices, with the constant and enormous turn-over in their personnel because of the relatively very low pay now allowed for their employees.

Mr. President, I was very hopeful that the distinguished chairman of the subcommittee would at least take the proposed amendment to conference, but since he does not agree to do so I hope the Senate will adopt the amendment. That will place the whole matter in conference, and there the conferees may go into the matter further, and obtain a better picture than perhaps they have been able to obtain of the situation with reference to the operation of the War Manpower Commission and how the Commission is now crippled and its work impaired because of the relatively very low salaries which are allowed.

Mr. LA FOLLETTE. Mr. President, I wish to say a further word in conclusion. I realize that probably to some extent the Federal Security Administrator has brought this on his own head, because I think in all sincerity and conviction he has announced that he is in favor of taking over the unemployment compensation service and federalizing it. I think the bill introduced by the distinguished Senator from New York [Mr. WAGNER] contains a provision for that to be done.

But Mr. President, that is not the issue, as I see it. What harm can it do, so far as that issue is concerned, to raise these salaries to a level comparable to those paid by the Federal Government? We can determine, and can fight out here when the time comes, what shall be done with the service. So far as I am con-

cerned, I am convinced that, wherever possible, we should maintain the Federal-State relationship. I think it is a mistake to go in the other direction; but for purposes of war it was considered necessary to take the service over, and it has been taken over.

Now why cannot we, for the duration of the war, at least, provide it with a sufficient salary scale so that it can retain its employees and do a creditable job in a very important situation?

Mr. HILL. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. LA FOLLETTE. I yield.

Mr. HILL. I think it should be emphasized, too, that the Federal Government in taking over the offices did so with the voluntary cooperation of the States. The States themselves recognized that in this time of war, in this time of great emergency, the offices had to be turned over to the Federal Government; and they were voluntarily turned over by the States, for the war period, and in full agreement, so to speak, and cooperation between the Federal Government and the States.

Mr. LA FOLLETTE. Mr. President, I have submitted the amendment, and I hope it will be agreed to.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The question is on agreeing to the amendment offered by the Senator from Wisconsin.

Mr. GUFFEY. Mr. President, I hope the amendment offered by the Senator from Wisconsin will prevail, as I think it is well worth while.

Mr. MEAD. Mr. President, will the Senator yield to me for a moment?

Mr. GUFFEY. I yield the floor.

Mr. MEAD. I merely desire to say that the disparity between the wage rates for the Federal service and for the State service is more widespread now, as the result of the passage of the \$300 bonus bill for Federal employees. I am in thorough accord with the Senator from Wisconsin on his amendment, and I trust it will prevail.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The question is on agreeing to the amendment offered by the Senator from Wisconsin.

Mr. McCARRAN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were not ordered.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The question is on agreeing to the amendment of the Senator from Wisconsin.

The amendment was agreed to.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The question is on the engrossment of the amendments and the third reading of the bill.

The amendments were ordered to be engrossed, and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time, and passed.

Mr. McCARRAN. Mr. President, I move that the Senate insist upon its amendments, request a conference with the House thereon, and that the Chair appoint the conferees on the part of the Senate.

The motion was agreed to; and the Vice President appointed Mr. McCARRAN, Mr. McKELLAR, Mr. RUSSELL, Mr. BANKHEAD, Mr. TRUMAN, Mr. LODGE, and Mr. WHITE conferees on the part of the Senate.

REPAIR OF DAMAGE CAUSED BY FLOODS

Under the order previously entered, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill (S. 1134) to amend section 5 of the Flood Control Act, approved August 18, 1941, which had been reported from the Committee on Commerce with an amendment.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The amendment of the committee will be stated.

The CHIEF CLERK. It is proposed to strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

That the sum of \$10,000,000 is hereby authorized to be appropriated as an emergency fund to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers for the repair, restoration, and strengthening of levees and other flood-control works which have been threatened or destroyed by the recent floods: *Provided*, That pending appropriation of said sum Secretary of War may allot from existing flood-control appropriations such sums as may be necessary for the immediate prosecution of the work herein authorized, such appropriations to be reimbursed from the appropriation herein authorized when made: *Provided further*, That funds allotted under this authority shall not be diverted from the unobligated funds from the appropriation "Flood control, general," made available in the War Department Civil Appropriation Act, 1944, for specific purposes therein enumerated.

Sec. 2. In order to aid in the rehabilitation, including necessary relocation, protection, and elevation above flood plane, of railroads engaged in interstate commerce whose properties have been destroyed or damaged in whole or in part by flood in 1943, the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, with the approval of the Interstate Commerce Commission, is authorized to make rehabilitation loan or loans to any such railroad or to the receivers or trustees thereof in such manner upon such terms and conditions and with such security as the corporation may prescribe; except that each such loan shall bear no interest and shall contain provisions for the amortization thereof over a period of not to exceed 40 years. The total amount of loans and commitments to railroads, receivers, and trustees under this section shall not exceed at any one time \$25,000,000. The amount of note, bond, debenture, and other such obligation which the corporation is authorized and empowered to issue and to have outstanding at any one time under existing law is hereby increased by an amount sufficient to carry out the provision of this section. The proceeds of any loan made pursuant to this section shall be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers.

Sec. 3. The provisions of this act shall be deemed to be additional and supplemental to, and not in lieu of, existing general legislation authorizing allocation of flood-control funds for restoration of flood-control works threatened or destroyed by flood.

Mr. OVERTON. Mr. President, in making the initial request, I explained the purpose and object of the bill. I simply desire to add to the observations I have already made the statement that the record shows that the area inundated during recent floods along the streams I have mentioned comprises a little more than 9,000,000 acres, the damage is estimated at \$96,000,000, and there were reported the deaths of 62 persons.

With that explanation, I submit the bill.

The Senator from North Dakota [Mr. LANGER] has an amendment to offer, and

I shall be glad to yield to him for that purpose.

Mr. LANGER. Mr. President, I offer the amendment, which I send to the desk and ask to have stated.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The amendment will be stated.

The CHIEF CLERK. On page 3, line 9, it is proposed to strike out the words "shall bear no interest" and insert "shall bear interest at the rate of 3 percent per annum."

Mr. McNARY. Mr. President, has the clerk just read the amendment offered yesterday by the able junior Senator from North Dakota [Mr. LANGER]?

The VICE PRESIDENT. The amendment has just been offered.

Mr. TRUMAN. Mr. President, I have no objection to the amendment.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The question is on agreeing to the amendment offered by the Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. DANAHER. Mr. President, may we have an explanation of what the Senator from North Dakota seeks to achieve by the amendment?

Mr. OVERTON. If the inquiry is addressed to me, and if I have the floor, I shall be very glad to answer.

Section 1 of the bill undertakes to take care of the damages suffered by railroads by an act of God, in the case of the tremendous floods which caused the sweeping away of trackage and other damage to railroads, especially where they crossed the rivers. I think the evidence shows that in one case the waters impounded in a dam were inadvertently released, and, as a result, one or two of the railroads suffered very great damage.

Section 2 provides that in order to aid in the rehabilitation, including necessary relocation, protection, and elevation above flood plane, of the railroads which were so damaged, loans may be made by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, with the approval of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and they shall be amortized over a period not to exceed 40 years. The committee amendment, as reported, provided that the loans should bear no interest. The amendment offered by the Senator from North Dakota provides that they shall bear interest at the rate of 3 percent per annum.

The Senator from Missouri [Mr. TRUMAN], who was the author of the railroad amendment, is agreeable to the amendment offered by the Senator from North Dakota. As the Senator who handled the bill, I am raising no objection to it.

I desire to say it is very necessary that the bill be passed, and I desire to have it passed without any controversial item in it.

Mr. DANAHER. Mr. President, will the Senator yield to me for a question?

Mr. OVERTON. I am very glad to yield.

Mr. DANAHER. Let me say that whoever was the author of the bill certainly had in mind that the railroads might need some assistance.

Mr. OVERTON. No doubt.

Mr. DANAHER. And it was deemed to be in the public interest that there be a

source to which the railroads could apply for funds; is not that so?

Mr. OVERTON. That is correct.

Mr. DANAHER. It is also to be presumed that if the author of the bill thought it would be in the public interest that a loan period of 40 years be provided, it would be advantageous to the public to have the loans made without interest; is it not?

Mr. OVERTON. The Senator is correct.

Mr. DANAHER. At that point someone has decided that, even if the railroads need loans, and even if it be in the public interest to have the railroads receive them, it must be in the public interest to have the railroads pay 3 percent interest per annum. I do not know whether the railroads can, in the event of need, finance such loans at the rate of 3 percent. I do not know whether such a provision is fair. Has the committee had any information as to whether 3 percent is the proper rate?

Mr. OVERTON. The information which the Commerce Committee had on that question was, first, as to the damage which had been caused; second, that some of the railroads were in bankruptcy or receivership; and that in respect to all the railroads, they were acting under an advice amounting practically to an admonition from the Interstate Commerce Commission to retire as rapidly as possible their interest-bearing indebtedness, in order to avoid the payment of interest thereon and in order to have a reserve capital with which to meet the impact of the post-war period. Therefore the suggestion was made that the loans be granted to the railroads without any interest, upon the further argument that the railroads are doing a great public service; that commerce on the railroads was interrupted by the floods, and is continuing to be interrupted, at a time when, in the prosecution of the war, it is very necessary to transport as rapidly as possible troops, munitions, and matériel of war. In order that the work of rehabilitating the railroads may proceed promptly, the Federal Government should offer the inducement of letting them have the money on collateral security without interest. That is the argument.

Mr. DANAHER. Mr. President, will the Senator further yield?

Mr. OVERTON. I yield.

Mr. DANAHER. In view of the fact that the Reconstruction Finance Corporation is to be permitted to make these rehabilitation loans only with the approval of the Interstate Commerce Commission, I take it it is to be presumed that the Interstate Commerce Commission may deny permission to any railroad to borrow.

Mr. OVERTON. The Senator is correct.

Mr. DANAHER. In order that the public interest may properly be served, and in order that the desire of the Senator from North Dakota and those who share his views may be executed, at least in part, I offer, as a substitute for the amendment offered by the Senator from North Dakota, language which will read:

Shall bear interest at a rate not to exceed 3 percent per annum.

Mr. McNARY. Mr. President, yesterday the distinguished Senator from South Dakota conferred with me regarding this bill, which provides for loans without interest. I suggested 3 percent, because the Disaster Loan Corporation, an agency of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, charges cities, townships, counties, and other political subdivisions which have suffered similar losses 3 percent. I thought probably it was an equitable adjustment of the interest rate. However, if money can be obtained at a lower rate, that is all right. I say that in all fairness to the Senator, because I made the suggestion based wholly on the practice established by the Disaster Loan Corporation in charging 3 percent to private or public corporations and institutions which meet with situations similar to the one described by the able Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. TRUMAN. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. OVERTON. I yield.

Mr. TRUMAN. Mr. President, this was my amendment. It has been my privilege to be a member of the Interstate Commerce Committee with the distinguished Senator from Montana [Mr. WHEELER] and to have made a complete and thorough investigation of the financial set-up of the railroads.

Nearly all the southwestern railroads are located in the particular flood area to which the bill of the Senator from Louisiana relates. Ninety percent of them are in receivership. At least one has been almost completely washed away. It is absolutely essential in this wartime traffic. It cannot be replaced unless the Government takes it over and replaces it.

I had thought that the widening of the openings on a great many of the southwestern streams, the changing of the railroad alignment along the Illinois River and the Wabash River, and the opening of the bridgehead at Fort Smith, Ark., would have a very great effect on the farm lands which have been inundated by the recent floods. We have never had an over-all flood-control picture for the whole Mississippi Valley. Flood-control work has been done on a piecemeal basis. Back in 1935 a program was outlined by the National Resources Planning Board which called for an over-all flood-control program taking into consideration the small rivers. It is the small rivers which cause flood disasters. The Arkansas River, the White River, the St. Francis River, the Illinois River, the Sangamon River, the Wabash River, the Grand River in Missouri, the Osage River in Missouri, and half a dozen others were the cause of the disastrous floods which washed out farm crops.

I do not want the railroads to have any special privileges over the farmers or anyone else; and when the Senator from North Dakota suggested an interest rate, I suggested to him that it be made not greater than 3 percent, because money can be borrowed on short-term paper for as little as one-half of 1 percent. The same argument was made to me as was made by the distinguished Senator from Oregon, that the Disaster Loan Corporation charges 3 per-

center for rehabilitation loans in the Ohio River Valley. I do not think the railroads ought to have any special privileges, but this is a movement in the public interest, and unless some of the railroads are relocated, unless bridges are raised, and new bridges built in many places, there will be an additional flood menace every time a heavy rainfall occurs in the Mississippi Basin.

I am perfectly willing to accept any amendment which is reasonable, just, and fair so far as the farmers and the railroads are concerned. I have no objection to an interest rate being charged. My idea in offering the amendment in the form in which it was offered was based upon the fact that the railroads affected are nearly all in receivership, and those which are not in receivership are skating so close to the edge that if it had not been for the war effort some of them would now be in receivership.

With that explanation, I am perfectly willing to accept any amendment on the interest question which is fair to all concerned.

Mr. LANGER. Mr. President, the recent floods caused thousands of farmers to lose all they had. They are broke. They are putting in late crops. They are doing just as much for the public interest as are the railroads. I understand that they are obliged to pay 3-percent interest. If the Disaster Loan Corporation charges farmers 3 percent I think the railroads should pay the same rate. That is the purpose of my amendment. If it charges less, there is no objection to the railroads paying less, provided the farmers also pay less.

Mr. MALONEY. Mr. President, I should like to have the RECORD show, because I am a member of the Commerce Committee, that at the committee meeting yesterday I offered an amendment which would strike out that part of the bill providing that money may be loaned to the railroads without interest. The amendment was defeated in the committee. I then explained to the able chairman of the subcommittee [Mr. OVERTON] that I would offer an amendment to the bill on the floor. Thereafter I discussed the matter with the Senator from North Dakota [Mr. LANGER] and told him that I had planned to offer an amendment. I do not do so because of the amendment which is now before the Senate.

I wish the RECORD to show clearly that I feel that this would be a most dangerous precedent. I think that the argument, sincerely made, that the railroads serve the public welfare, certainly applies in equal measure to the farmer, and to almost everyone else. I am very hopeful that this amendment will prevail.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The question is on agreeing to the amendment offered by the Senator from Connecticut [Mr. DANAHY] to the amendment of the Senator from North Dakota [Mr. LANGER].

The amendment to the amendment was agreed to.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The question now is on agreeing to the amendment of the Senator from North Dakota [Mr. LANGER] as amended to the amendment of the committee.

The amendment, as amended, to the committee amendment was agreed to.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The question is on agreeing to the committee amendment as amended.

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. Mr. President, is the committee amendment pending? I have a separate amendment to offer.

Mr. OVERTON. Mr. President, what action has the Senate taken?

The VICE PRESIDENT. The amendment of the Senator from Connecticut [Mr. DANAHY] to the amendment of the Senator from North Dakota [Mr. LANGER] was agreed to, and then the amendment of the Senator from North Dakota, as modified by the amendment of the Senator from Connecticut, was also agreed to. That means, in effect, that the amendment of the Senator from Connecticut was agreed to.

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. I offer an amendment to the committee amendment.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will state the amendment offered by the Senator from Missouri.

The LEGISLATIVE CLERK. At the end of the committee amendment it is proposed to add the following new section:

SEC. 4. The Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized and directed to suspend all quota provisions and other limitations with respect to the production of agricultural commodities in any area affected by floods in 1943 whenever he finds that crops have been destroyed or plantings interfered with or washed out in such area by reason of such floods, and he is further authorized to permit the maximum planting in such area of any crops which are essential to the war effort.

Mr. McNARY. Mr. President, I did not catch the full import of the first part of the amendment. However, as to the latter part—

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. McNARY. Mr. President, I will yield out of mere courtesy to the Senator.

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. Mr. President, I did not wish to take the Senator off his feet, but the amendment itself seems to me to be self-explanatory. It simply provides that as to land which has been flooded, and on which replanting is necessary, the quotas and allotments shall be suspended for this year. In other words, a great deal of that land is the best corn land in the world. Crops which were planted there were washed out, and it will be necessary to replant them. It is still possible to grow a corn crop, but it is not possible to grow flax and some other crops which had been planted.

Mr. McNARY. I do not believe that any quotas on the plantation of corn have been worked out as being applicable for this year. As I recall, last year the only quotas were on wheat. Those quotas have been removed for this year. I do not think there are quotas on any crops for this year. However, in any event, whether I am misinformed or not, I have no objection to the amendment because farmers should be permitted the greatest freedom in the planting of whatever crop is most suitable for the soil and for the market.

Mr. THOMAS of Oklahoma. Mr. President, when the agricultural appropria-

tion bill was pending an amendment was offered and accepted which provided that all restrictions on the planting of cotton should be removed in the green-bug infested areas and in the flood-devastated areas throughout the country. That amendment was agreed to by the Senate and it has since been agreed to in conference. There is only one crop over which control is being exercised, and that is cotton. There are no allocations for wheat, flax, rye, or anything except cotton. As I understand, the amendment has already been agreed to by the conference committee and has been approved by both Houses of Congress. While I am in favor of the amendment submitted by the Senator from Missouri, I think it comes too late as the whole matter has been already effectively covered.

Mr. OVERTON. Mr. President, while I cannot speak for the Commerce Committee because the amendment was not before that committee, personally I have no objection to the amendment.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The question is on agreeing to the amendment offered by the Senator from Missouri.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. Mr. President, I send forward another amendment which I ask to have read.

Mr. LANGER. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. I yield.

Mr. LANGER. Will the Senator tell me where in the bill there is a provision for the rebuilding of bridges which have been washed out? When the bill was introduced by the Senator from Illinois [Mr. LUCAS] he spoke of the destruction of bridges. In my State many bridges have been washed out. Where is their repair provided for in the bill?

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. So far as I know, the question of local bridges is not provided for in the bill. In my State we are having the second flood of this year. Each of them has been as serious as any flood on the Missouri River since 1903. There is not a passable bridge across the Missouri River from St. Louis to Kansas City at the present time.

Mr. McCLELLAN. Mr. President, as I recall, a few days ago the Senate passed a bill which took care of the problem of the repair and the construction of roads and bridges which have been damaged or destroyed by the floods. An amendment was attached to a bill which came over from the House, as it may be recalled, by which we undertook to provide for the repairs and replacement of bridges and roads which were destroyed by floods, and set up a \$20,000,000 emergency fund for that purpose.

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. I thank the Senator from Arkansas.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will state the amendment offered by the Senator from Missouri.

The LEGISLATIVE CLERK. At the end of the committee amendment it is proposed to add a new section, as follows:

SEC. 5. The War Production Board, and every other governmental agency which has jurisdiction over allocations and priorities relating to farm machinery and equipment, are authorized and directed immediately to take such steps as may be necessary to provide for the necessary allocations and priori-

ties to enable farmers in the areas affected by floods in 1943 to replace and repair their farm machinery and equipment which was destroyed or damaged by such floods, and to continue farming operations.

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. Mr. President, the amendment simply provides, so far as possible, a directive to the War Production Board, or other governmental agencies of adequate jurisdiction, to assist and aid farmers who, in many cases, lost their farm implements and necessary fencing, by granting to them priorities so far as possible in order that they may continue their farming operations.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. President, I have no objection to the amendment offered by the Senator from Missouri. However, in order that we may keep the record straight, I should like to make an observation having reference to the War Production Board.

At this moment the War Production Board will grant priorities to anyone who needs fencing, farm machinery, or any other implements which have been destroyed by floods. So far no one has filed any complaints through my office because of inability to obtain priorities from the War Production Board. As I have said, I have no objection to the amendment, but I think great credit is due the War Production Board for its recognition of the emergency in my section of the country as well as in sections of the Southwest and the granting of priorities immediately and with expedition.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The question is on agreeing to the amendment of the Senator from Missouri.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. Mr. President, I send forward another amendment which I ask to have read.

The VICE PRESIDENT. The clerk will state the amendment.

The CHIEF CLERK. At the end of the committee amendment it is proposed to add the following:

SEC. 6. That in order to aid in the rehabilitation of farmers whose buildings, crops, livestock, machinery, and equipment were destroyed or damaged, in whole or in part, by floods in 1943, the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to provide relief to any such farmer, in such manner and upon such terms and conditions as the Secretary of Agriculture may prescribe, for the purpose of aiding such farmer to replace or repair any property so destroyed or damaged, and to obtain the necessary seed, livestock, and equipment to enable him to continue farming operations.

SEC. 7. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated the sum of \$15,000,000 for carrying out the provisions of this act.

Mr. McNARY. Mr. President, I have followed very carefully our ventures in the field of relief. I recall that a good many years ago Congress relieved the farmers of North Dakota by buying feed and it also went into the question of fertilizer and food.

Then we loaned money on easy terms for machinery. We thought we had about reached the limit of what the Federal Government should do for the farmers. Evidently it is now proposed to go very much further than we have gone heretofore. As I understand it, a pre-

vious amendment provided for priorities, and I have no objection to that. The pending amendment mentions seed, livestock, and equipment. Then there is an authorization for a large sum of money. Does that mean that each one of these farmers may acquire a cow, if necessary, or hogs, and seed and all that sort of thing, to reequip their farms on a loan basis? If so, what is the standard? I want to be charitable, but I also want to be careful. I have seen this program grow and grow and grow and I do not want it to be placed on an emotional basis or to be considered a mere reaction to sentiment. Let us always be sensible.

I am rather sorry that the able Senator has offered the amendment. It touches me to object to a proposition of this kind, but I thought, with the relief granted by the bill as originally proposed, plus the charge of an interest rate which was fair to the railroads, and the amendment heretofore adopted the bill would be sufficient, but now we are getting into an entirely new field.

We have other agencies which can do this job without additional legislation. I rather think the Senator is running a chance of losing his entire bill and exhausting sympathy by trying to do something that is not practicable. I do not know who offered the amendment, but, whoever offered it, it seems to me not to be advisable.

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. I offered it.

Mr. McNARY. Very well. Then, I suggest to my great friend from Missouri, who generally exercises rare judgment—

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. I thank the Senator.

Mr. McNARY. That he is about to submarine his own effort. I am through.

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. Mr. President, I say very frankly that the amendment which I have proposed goes considerably further than the original scope of the bill. The original scope of the bill is limited in respect to the restoration of public works in the nature of dikes and things of that sort. But I say that in this emergency, in view of the serious food shortage which now confronts the people of the United States, it is necessary to go further, not as a means of extending charity to the farmers, not as a means of extending charity to anybody, but as a method of stepping up, so far as possible, food production in the United States, which by the ruinous floods which have taken place has been set back to an almost unprecedented degree in this year when it is worse needed than ever before. As I said a moment ago, in the Missouri Valley we are experiencing our second flood of the year, each one of which has been greater than any flood the Missouri Valley has suffered since 1903.

The Senator from Oregon very properly says that this is somewhat of a departure, but we have had many departures in the last few years. We are spending Government money all over the world without any hope of ever getting it back, under the lease-lend policy; and to say that we are justified in financing production of food to be given to Russia or to England or to north Africa or to

any place else, and that we are not justified in protecting ourselves so far as possible by restoring to production this year in a great emergency thousands upon thousands of acres of the most fertile land on the habitable globe, seems to me to be preposterous on its face.

I am not in favor of charity; but this is an emergency; this is the time when we need food more than we have ever needed it in any year in the whole history of the United States; we have assumed obligations practically to feed the world, and to suggest that, by reason of some technicality, we have to sit by with our hands folded and allow this enormous acreage of very valuable alluvial land to go out of cultivation, in this great national disaster, simply does not make sense to me. Therefore, I propose this amendment. It is very frankly for direct relief rather than what is contained in the original bill, which was simply for restoration of public works, which, of itself, is a very meritorious object, and with which I thoroughly agree, but it seems to me that such an emergency now confronts us that direct action is necessary.

Mr. McNARY. Mr. President, I do not want to be accused of being technical. That is a charge which may be brought against a lawyer; I am an orchard man.

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. I certainly did not intend to make any charge against the distinguished Senator from Oregon for whom, as he knows, I have the very highest respect.

Mr. McNARY. The great legal mind of the able Senator from Missouri might look at the technical side; I am not thinking of that side; but I am trying really to do the Senator a kindness which he does not understand or appreciate. He will probably get into such a situation that he will lose his bill; but I shall not dwell on that.

In the greatest seriousness, Mr. President, let me say emergencies are always occurring. This is not the first emergency. I remember when Mr. Hoover was Secretary of Commerce, after I came to the Senate, nearly a quarter of a century ago, I went with him and others down the Mississippi River and saw the devastating flood then raging—the greatest ever in the history of that grand old river. That was an emergency. We did not buy farmers cows and spans of mules and harness and oats and barley and alfalfa hay and what not. The farmers who were affected worked out their own destiny. We did, however, appropriate money and extended to them the hope that such a disaster would not occur in the future. I supported legislation along that line to the extent of many millions of dollars, and I am now happy that I did so. That is what we did to insure them against future devastation.

I am willing to go further than this bill, but the Senator need not talk to me about emergencies. As I have said, we always have emergencies; we have had them everywhere all the time. It is just as sorrowful for a farmer to lose a cow 1 year as it is another. The whole thing is the loss of the cow. It is useless to appeal to me on the ground of patriotism and on the statement that this is

an unusual situation. That is all folded. A cow is a cow "for a' that."

I may not be technical, but I cannot think loosely on these questions.

Mr. President, there is no standard provided governing what the Secretary of Agriculture may do to help these farmers. Is he to buy these things and furnish them gratuitously to the farmers, or is he to loan the money? If so, at what rate? This is the only bill I recall where we have not, by some means or method, worked out a formula whereby the farmer could obtain relief while he paid to the Government a part of the money.

I am appealing to the very able Senator, my very dear friend from Missouri. Does he contemplate that the \$15,000,000 proposed to be appropriated shall be used to restock these farms without any return of principal to the Government or any penalty in the form of interest? What is his plan?

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. The amendment provides for direct relief; there can be no question about that.

Mr. McNARY. So we are giving \$15,000,000 to the group of farmers who have suffered this loss without any obligation whatsoever on their part to repay it or return it to the Government?

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. We have given about \$15,000,000,000 to various other peoples in the world.

Mr. McNARY. I understand that; I voted for those appropriations; but that is the history, and I never found any reason to justify a bill by going back to a study of immediate history. I let the historian of the future write history for men. That is based on experience and on common sense.

Mr. President, I have given my views. I doubt very much the wisdom at this time of starting on a new process, a new formula for relief which has never been justified by experience and which has not had the sanction of legislative action. But if the Senate wants to do so, I do not want to hold up the bill. I realize we must pass the appropriation bills, and dispose of the conference report, because tomorrow will be the last day of the fiscal year. I subside by saying I think that the pending proposal is hasty, unfortunate, and untimely.

Mr. OVERTON. Mr. President, in reference to the pending amendment offered by the able Senator from Missouri, I wish to say that it was not referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce. Therefore, when we considered the bill we did not consider the amendment. As a printed reproduction of it shows, it was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. Will the Senator yield?

Mr. OVERTON. I yield.

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. In the form in which I offered the amendment, it was changed to an authorization. Of course, the printed bill which I introduced as a separate measure contained provision for a direct appropriation, and therefore was properly referred to the Committee on Appropriations. I have now changed it, and in the form in which I offer it as an authorization it is proper to refer it to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. OVERTON. It has not yet been so referred.

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. No, but I am offering it as an amendment to the pending bill.

Mr. OVERTON. I understand. I wish to make the statement that the Senate Committee on Commerce, in considering Senate bill 1134, the pending bill, did not consider this amendment, because it had not been referred to the committee.

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. If the Senator will permit me, the Senator will recall that I gave notice in the committee of my intention to offer it as an amendment to this bill.

Mr. OVERTON. The Senator is correct, and I was about to make that observation. During the hearing the Senator from Missouri stated that he proposed to offer not only this amendment, but the other two amendments which have been adopted, when the bill came up for consideration. He said he was going to offer the amendments on the floor of the Senate.

Personally I have no objection to the amendment offered by the Senator from Missouri, but I cannot accept it as representing the Senate Commerce Committee. As to whether or not it is such an amendment as should receive committee consideration before being acted upon by the Senate is a matter which addresses itself to the sound judgment of the Senate. It is of course a very important amendment, authorizing an appropriation larger than that authorized by the bill itself. The bill authorizes an appropriation of \$10,000,000, while the amendment authorizes an appropriation of \$15,000,000.

Mr. HILL. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. OVERTON. I yield.

Mr. HILL. I can well understand the motives which prompt the Senator from Missouri in offering the amendment. I can also understand the observation made by the distinguished senior Senator from Oregon [Mr. McNARY]. I wonder if the proposed work could not be done by the Farm Security Administration. As I recall, several years ago there were some disastrous floods in Alabama, and the Farm Security Administration moved in and gave us relief very much in line with the relief suggested by the amendment of the Senator from Missouri. I wonder what the Senator would think about putting this work under the Farm Security Administration, because in that agency the machinery and the procedure are available which the Senator from Oregon has suggested are lacking.

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. I should have no objection to that, but it was originally my idea that the matter should be handled by the Disaster Loan Corporation. I consulted with various agencies of Government, which all recognize the very desperate necessity for immediate action in the way of direct relief if crops in the widespread area affected are to be saved, but the best advice I could get, after consulting with everyone I could think of consulting, was that it was probably better to put the matter under the direction of the

Secretary of Agriculture. It did not seem to fit into the particular niche of any governmental agency, except the general authority of the Secretary of Agriculture.

Mr. HILL. Did the Senator confer with the head of the Farm Security Administration?

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. I was in touch with him; I did not personally confer with him.

Mr. HILL. I have in mind what the Farm Security Administration did in somewhat similar circumstances in the State of Alabama several years ago, in conditions growing out of floods, and knowing they have an organization set-up and prescribed for such work.

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. It does not make the slightest difference to me what agency handles the matter. What I am interested in is in getting relief for the flood sufferers, and more particularly in attempting to save the crops in that extremely important agricultural area this year.

Mr. HILL. It was the observation of the distinguished Senator from Oregon, together with my own observation of what the Farm Security Administration had done in Alabama, which prompted me to express the thought that perhaps if the Senator placed the administration of the activity in the hands of the Farm Security Administration it would meet the questions raised by the Senator from Oregon. There we have a going agency whose business it is to rehabilitate farmers and to do the very work proposed by the Senator's amendment.

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. I should be perfectly willing to accept any modification, so long as the work was done. The only thing with which I am concerned is having the situation relieved, and having it done in time for the distressed farmers to make a crop this year.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. President—

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PEPPER in the chair). Does the Senator from Louisiana yield to the Senator from Illinois?

Mr. OVERTON. I shall yield the floor in a moment.

As the Senator from Missouri knows, I am very much in sympathy not only with the amendments he offered and which have already been agreed to, but I am in sympathy with the amendment he has just offered. It is an amendment of much greater magnitude than the other amendments, carrying authorization for an appropriation of \$15,000,000, and I was thinking it might be best that the amendment be offered as a separate bill, and receive committee consideration and have hearings, for no committee consideration has been given to it, as the Senator knows.

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. The Senator is correct.

Mr. OVERTON. I think it can be done very expeditiously, and I think it should be done at once, because I see very readily what the Senator has in mind.

If it were done when 'tis done, then 't were well it were done quickly.

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. If it is to be done, it must be done right away, or it will not be effective.

Mr. OVERTON. I certainly shall cooperate with the Senator from Missouri to obtain speedy committee action, if it shall be referred to the Committee on Commerce, and is to be regarded as a flood-control measure.

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. I think there is not any question that, as I have offered the measure, as an amendment to the pending bill, it is within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Commerce. It was properly referred to the Committee on Appropriations as I originally introduced it, because it carried a direct appropriation.

Mr. OVERTON. If it shall be referred to the Committee on Commerce, as chairman of the subcommittee having jurisdiction of such matters, I shall undertake immediately to conduct a hearing and report the bill.

Mr. CLARK of Missouri. I am not willing to jeopardize the bill introduced by the Senator from Illinois, and, with the understanding suggested by the Senator from Louisiana, I withdraw the amendment, and intend to offer it as a separate bill, and have it referred to the Committee on Commerce.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The amendment is withdrawn.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. President, I wish to express my gratitude to the senior Senator from Missouri for withdrawing the amendment to the pending bill, because I should have some fear of the bill receiving immediate attention, if the Senator's amendment had become part of the measure, and also desire to commend the chairman and subcommittee of the Commerce Committee upon the efficient and speedy manner in which they have considered this legislation.

Some time ago I was called to my home in Illinois. At that time the floods in the Illinois valley were at the very highest peak, and upon my return, after viewing the devastation caused by the floods, I set about to contact the various agencies of government which could afford any relief whatsoever in the various sections of this country and the many people affected thereby.

I first called the Farm Credit Administration and found, through Dr. Warburton, who is deputy governor of that organization, that action to provide immediate aid in the form of loans to farmers for replanting crops destroyed by flood was being carried on at that time. He said that all the money necessary to make the loans needed in connection with the crops which had been destroyed was available.

I conferred with the Red Cross at the time in order to ascertain what they were doing, and learned that they were also on the job in my section of the State, as well as in the other flooded areas.

The Disaster Loan Corporation was standing by, for instance, ready to give aid and comfort to the sufferers of the flood the moment the flood began to recede, by making disaster loans primarily to home owners in the flooded districts, whose homes had been destroyed. The Federal Works Agency was attempting to do something in the way of repairing and reconstructing the facili-

ties of the different localities, which had been destroyed, such as the sewer systems, water works, and other utilities which had gone under as the result of the high water.

The only thing affected by the flood which was not covered directly by an agency was roads and highways. That has been taken care of by an amendment proposed by the distinguished junior Senator from Arkansas [Mr. McCLELLAN]. The sewer systems and other facilities and utilities of certain municipalities along the affected area will also require some relief. It is my understanding that by the Lanham bill, which was passed by the House, several million dollars is appropriated for this particular purpose. That bill is now pending before the Committee on Public Lands and Surveys, as I recall.

Mr. President, my bill is an emergency measure. That is why I was happy that the distinguished Senator from Missouri [Mr. CLARK] withdrew his amendment. The other amendments he offered, of course, will make little or no difference.

Mr. McCLELLAN. Mr. President—
The PRESIDING OFFICER. Does the Senator from Illinois yield to the Senator from Arkansas?

Mr. LUCAS. I yield.

Mr. McCLELLAN. The distinguished Senator from Illinois has just stated that the measure is an emergency one. I wanted to inquire with respect to the provisions on page 2, lines 9 to 11, inclusive, under which \$10,000,000 is authorized—

For the repair, restoration, and strengthening of levees and other flood-control works which have been threatened or destroyed by the recent floods.

I should like to ask the distinguished Senator from Illinois, who introduced the bill, if that language will prevent the Army engineers from doing more than merely rebuilding the levees or existing flood-control works which were destroyed? In other words, would the language be sufficient to authorize and permit the strengthening of the levees by increasing both the grade and section, or would it limit their reconstruction or repair simply to replacing them in substantially the same condition as they existed prior to the flood and destruction?

Mr. LUCAS. Let me say in reply to the able Senator from Arkansas that when I returned from Illinois I also discussed with the War Department the question of the rebuilding and the rehabilitating of these levees which had been destroyed by the flood, and learned from the War Department that under section 5 of the Flood Control Act the War Department was limited to the spending of \$1,000,000 per annum for purposes of rebuilding and repairing levees and other flood projects. There remained in the fund an unobligated balance at that time of approximately \$30,000,000. I was informed that when a flood destroys a levee the Department, under the present law, is unable to rebuild that levee to a greater height than its present height, or to widen the base to a greater width than its pres-

ent width. Further, the present law would keep the War Department from undertaking to repair or rebuild something which had been destroyed by the flood, though considered to be an immediate emergency, if it were, let us say, 300 yards away from the flood project. Those are basic factors in section 5 of the Flood Control Act.

I immediately conferred with the War Department with the view toward eliminating all those restrictions. My bill in the first instance provided that the Department could spend any portion of the unobligated balance, that it could widen the base of the levee and build it to any height the engineers thought necessary in view of the recent experience, and also any emergency caused by the excessive high water could be given attention.

The Department contends that the language as rewritten, covers all the points which I raised in my original conversation with them, and which is included in the language of the original bill I introduced. The word "strengthen" in the amendment is broad enough to extend the base and increase the height. They did not like the word "emergency" in the original bill. They thought that such a word might be used in a broad sense that would go too far, so it was stricken; however, I will say to the distinguished Senator from Arkansas, that the bill provides all the necessary power to do what the Senator has inquired about in his direct inquiry to me. Had the War Department representatives not given me such an interpretation, I would have insisted upon the original language. The amended bill is the same that is now being used, as I understand, by the flood-control committee of the House of Representatives, which has reported out a bill similar to mine. So the House and the Senate committees, and the War Department are satisfied that the language in question will be all that is necessary to provide the relief we need.

One of the primary reasons—in fact, the major reason—I introduced this proposed legislation to existing law was the fact that in my home city of Havana, Ill., we saw the water rise to the highest point it has risen in all of the town's history. In 1844 occurred the previous highest flood in that valley, and so far as records show the flood this year rose 3 feet higher than it was in 1844. Consequently the water went over the top of practically every levee along the river. The seawall at Beardstown, a city of some nine or ten thousand population below Havana some 30 miles, held the water with sacks of sand piled some 3 feet on top of the levee. Great credit is due not only to the civilian population of that community for working day and night to save the city but to the soldiers, who rendered a tremendous amount of useful and hard work in connection with keeping the water from flooding the city and causing much damage. This is only one example of many, which show the necessity for immediate legislation.

Mr. President, my bill will give the Department an opportunity immediately to start planning and making specifica-

tions for the rebuilding of the levees to a greater height, for widening their base, and in some places setting back levees where bottlenecks exist with respect to holding back the flow of the water. At certain spots along the Illinois River and other rivers there are narrow stretches from bank to bank. The water cannot flow through fast enough.

Mr. McCLELLAN. Mr. President, will the Senator yield further?

Mr. LUCAS. I yield.

Mr. McCLELLAN. I wish to thank the Senator from Illinois for his statement. The only thing I was really concerned about was the language to which I referred. I wondered whether it would permit the Army engineers really to do what has been found necessary to be done in view of recent experience. The recent floods have shown that it is necessary to set the levees back. I wondered whether in undertaking to repair and restore the levees the engineers could increase the section and grade and strength of the levee in an effort to prevent a disaster such as we have lately experienced. It occurred to me that merely replacing the levees and the flood-control works, restoring them, in other words, to their previous condition, would ultimately possibly prove to be a waste of money.

In my State in the sections which have suffered in the recent floods the people are greatly concerned with respect to this matter. They are hoping that when the work is done under any emergency legislation Congress may enact, or whenever the Army engineers set about to repair the damage, they will take into account the height of the flood, and in making expenditures and in doing this work try to build the levees sufficiently strong, and make such provision with respect to setting them back and establishing flood-control protection as to be equal to the exigencies of another emergency and disaster such as has lately been experienced.

I thank the Senator, and I desire to commend him for the bill. It is very timely legislation. It is greatly needed, and I hope the day will soon come when we shall have what the junior Senator from Missouri [Mr. TRUMAN] referred to earlier in the discussion on the measure, namely, a broad, all-inclusive flood-control and water-development program for the streams of the Nation, not only for my State, but for the whole Nation. Looking to the post-war era, I think that such a program offers one of the greatest opportunities for employment and rehabilitation the Nation can enter upon, because in a period of years it will be one which will be justified and self-sustaining and self-supporting.

I thank the Senator, and I commend him for the legislation he is sponsoring.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. President, the Senator is very kind in his remarks. He is obviously correct, in his conclusion with respect to the lands of this Nation, subject to overflow.

Let me say to the Senator that the pending bill is only a drop in the bucket so far as the real control of floods is concerned. The \$10,000,000 provided for in the pending bill, as I have previously

stated, is strictly an emergency appropriation. However, until the bill becomes law the Army engineers cannot make a single move in the direction of the rebuilding of the levees, unless they want to build them to the same height at which they stood in the valleys last year.

Consequently, as soon as the bill becomes law the Army engineers will be able to lay down their plans and blue prints and specifications with respect to what should be done along every river in the sections which have suffered the tremendous amount of damage from the floods.

Mr. McCLELLAN. Mr. President, will the Senator yield further?

Mr. LUCAS. I yield.

Mr. McCLELLAN. In connection with what the able Senator has just stated, Mr. President, I say to him that, as I understand his bill, once the bill is enacted, under its provisions the Army engineers will not have to await the appropriation, following the bill. The bill provides that they may immediately begin the work by the use of existing appropriations. Is not that correct?

Mr. LUCAS. I think one of the reasons we want to have the bill passed today is to have the \$10,000,000 included in the deficiency appropriation bill which now is pending before the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. McCLELLAN. That would make it certain.

Mr. LUCAS. I think I am correct in that statement.

Mr. OVERTON. That is correct.

Mr. McCLELLAN. I certainly hope the bill will be passed.

Mr. LUCAS. One further observation, Mr. President, and then I shall conclude. As I said a moment ago, the \$10,000,000 is only the beginning. It is strictly for an emergency, and, as the testimony shows, is about all the engineers can spend in an efficient and economical way before a long-range, well-defined program can be submitted. But the record should show now—and I know this will be done—that an over-all survey will be made of every flooded area throughout the United States, with the view to attempting once and for all to harness the waters which come down in the spring-time or in the fall as a result of the heavy rains at those times. We have done, as the Senator from Missouri, I think it was, stated, a piecemeal job upon the flood-control projects throughout the country. It will cost no little sum of money to do the proper job. But if the plan is laid in a way which will take care of the future insofar as concerns the elimination of the damages which frequently occur, the result will be that money will be saved over a long period of time. Each and every year, as a result of the floods, Congress appropriates millions upon millions of dollars—and rightfully so—to this or that agency for relief for the losses sustained. Vision and safety compel me to say that such money should be expended for a great program of flood-relief for the whole Nation.

Such a plan is one matter to which the Committee on Post-War Planning, of which the able Senator from Georgia is

chairman, certainly should give a tremendous amount of consideration in connection with the problem of unemployment following the war.

I desire to take this opportunity to commend the Army engineers for what they are doing at the present time. Many a hole or a gap in the levees through which the water has rushed is now being repaired. The Army engineers have been able to find a sufficient amount of money in the War Department to enable them to start the work. The sooner they can plug the holes and let the drainage commissioners or the individual land owners have an opportunity to get their pumps in working order, so that they can pump the water from the drainage districts, the sooner will come the time when the farmers, even in those flooded spots, perhaps, will have an opportunity to plant corn and grow a crop, providing the weatherman is with us this fall.

Mr. President, I have said all I intend to say on the bill. I think there is no objection to it on the part of the able majority and minority leaders in the Senate. It is a meritorious measure. It is vital, and should be passed without any delay.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the committee amendment as amended.

The amendment, as amended, was agreed to.

The bill (S. 1134) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to provide for emergency flood-control work made necessary by recent floods, and other purposes."

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. McLeod, one of its clerks, announced that the House had passed without amendment the bill (S. 1026) to provide for the settlement of claims for damage to or loss or destruction of property or personal injury or death caused by military personnel or civilian employees, or otherwise incident to activities of the War Department or of the Army.

The message also announced that the House had passed the bill (S. 832) relating to the sale of horse meat or food products thereof in the District of Columbia, with an amendment, in which it requested the concurrence of the Senate.

The message further announced that the House had agreed to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H. R. 332) to revise the Alaska game law.

The message also announced that the House had agreed to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H. R. 2536) to amend the act entitled "An act to provide for the promotion of vocational rehabilitation of persons disabled in industry or otherwise and their return to civil employment," approved June 2, 1920, as amended, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House had disagreed to the amend-

The next man was a Mr. Sherwood, whom I had never seen before. He conducted himself well, and testified frankly and openly.

The fourth man was Mr. Eisenhower. I believe I had met Mr. Eisenhower once before, just in passing; I think I was introduced to him, although I am not sure. I was introduced either to him or to his brother, General Eisenhower; I am not sure which. Mr. Eisenhower made an excellent witness, a fair, frank, and open witness. He answered all questions. All the witnesses did. All the gentlemen were of the same fine character. Of course, some were not as prominent in the investigation as others were, but each had a word of explanation. They answered every question fairly and frankly and openly, so far as I could see, and they made out an excellent case for the Domestic Branch of the organization, so far as I could ascertain.

The Foreign Branch was not interfered with at all by the committee, except the committee increased the amount the House had allowed. However, in the full committee a motion was made to cut the appropriation for the Foreign Branch by \$2,000,000, and that motion carried.

Members of the committee are sitting on both sides of me; and if I make any mistake of fact in submitting the matter, I hope they will call attention to it.

Mr. McNARY. Mr. President, will the Senator yield for a moment?

Mr. McKELLAR. I yield.

Mr. McNARY. I may not have followed the able Senator's statement as accurately as I should have done. I am interested in the subject he is discussing. He stated the Senate committee had increased the amount for the foreign service, as he described it; did he not?

Mr. McKELLAR. Yes.

Mr. McNARY. That item appears on page 29 in the print of the bill I have.

Mr. McKELLAR. Yes; in line 4.

Mr. McNARY. The amount was increased to \$27,000,000, was it?

Mr. McKELLAR. Yes, to \$27,000,000; but the full committee cut \$2,000,000 from it, leaving it at \$25,035,900.

Mr. McNARY. Yes. Now I understand. So the \$27,000,000 was inserted by the subcommittee, was it?

Mr. McKELLAR. By the subcommittee. The full committee cut that amount by \$2,000,000, leaving it at \$25,000,000.

Mr. McNARY. I thank the Senator.

Mr. McKELLAR. I hope the Senator will make a note of that.

Mr. NYE. Mr. President, will the Senator yield to me?

Mr. McKELLAR. I yield.

Mr. NYE. I hope the Senator will make the point that the subcommittee had originally increased the House figure by approximately \$5,000,000, and that subsequently the full Senate Appropriations Committee reduced the increase of \$5,000,000 by \$2,000,000.

Mr. McKELLAR. That is correct. I thank the Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. McNARY. Then, Mr. President, if the Senator will further yield, let me observe that as the item is left it is \$3,000,000 in excess of what the House allowed; is not that correct?

Mr. McKELLAR. That is correct.

Mr. LODGE. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. McKELLAR. I yield.

Mr. LODGE. I believe it is true that the subcommittee restored a sum somewhat in excess of \$3,000,000 to the Domestic Branch, the appropriation for which the House had entirely eliminated, and that it increased the amount allowed by the House for the Overseas Branch. I think that statement is correct. Am I correct in my statement that the subcommittee voted to appropriate \$3,000,000 for the Domestic Branch of the O. W. I., as compared with zero which had been granted by the House of Representatives?

Mr. McKELLAR. That is entirely true. The amount allowed was a trifle over \$3,000,000.

Mr. LODGE. Yes. Is it not also correct to say that of the nine functions of the O. W. I., the subcommittee voted to retain six, and voted to increase the amount for the Overseas Branch? Is not that correct?

Mr. McKELLAR. That is correct. I am now coming to that point. If the Senator will permit me to continue my explanation, I shall be glad to proceed.

Mr. LODGE. I shall be delighted to have the Senator proceed. I hope I may be recognized during his discussion of the question, because possibly he and I may interpret some matters somewhat differently.

Mr. McKELLAR. Yes; very likely we shall. Of course, I shall be glad to yield to the Senator.

As to the Domestic Branch, the witness was Mr. White, who comes from the State of my good friend, the Senator from Oregon [Mr. HOLMAN]. Mr. White is a good Republican. I am talking now about the Budget estimate of \$153,563 for that office.

Office of Program Coordination, \$248,650.

News Bureau, \$988,097.

Bureau of Publications, \$769,090.

Bureau of Special Services, \$986,096.

Radio Bureau, \$811,499.

I am emphasizing that because of something which will arise a little later.

Bureau of Graphics and Printing, \$1,774,672.

Motion Pictures Bureau, \$1,222,904.

Field Operations Bureau, \$1,911,335.

That is a total of about \$8,800,000, in round figures.

Instead of allowing the Office of Director \$153,563, the subcommittee allowed \$125,000.

For the Office of Program Coordination the subcommittee allowed \$220,000 instead of \$248,650.

For the News Bureau the subcommittee allowed \$900,000 instead of \$988,097.

For the Bureau of Special Services the subcommittee allowed \$950,000 instead of \$986,096.

For the Radio Bureau the subcommittee allowed the full amount. The subcommittee struck out entirely the item for the Bureau of Graphics and Printing. It amounts to \$1,774,672.

Reductions could very well be made in some of the smaller items; but the subcommittee struck out entirely the item

for the Bureau of Graphics and Printing, \$1,774,672; and for the Motion Pictures Bureau, for which \$1,222,904 was asked, the committee allowed \$50,000.

Let me digress long enough to say that if we are to use motion pictures in war information—and it is the best means of aiding the war effort of which I know—to my mind the reduction of the appropriation from \$1,222,904 to \$50,000 is a destruction of that method of handling the problem.

For the Field Operations Bureau nothing was allowed. So the subcommittee allowed \$3,061,000 of the \$8,800,000, in round figures, which was asked for. I think some small items were added in the full committee, \$800,000 of which was for the purpose of liquidating the remainder of the Domestic Branch.

Mr. President, I do not think that the Domestic Branch ought to be liquidated. We are in a war. The other day the Senate, without batting an eye, gave \$47,000,000 to Mr. Aubrey Williams to train boys in industry. I do not suppose Mr. Williams was ever engaged in industry in his life; but be that as it may, without a qualm the Senate appropriated \$47,000,000 for an utterly useless proposal.

These appropriations are for advertising ourselves in the war. In my judgment it has been done in a perfectly honest, straightforward, and successful way, with two or three exceptions. Those exceptions are frankly admitted. We all make mistakes. Even as good a man as I am, or as my friend the Senator from Illinois [Mr. LUCAS], the Senator from Virginia [Mr. BYRD], or the Senator from Massachusetts [Mr. LODGE], make mistakes. I do not think that because the Office of War Information has made some mistakes, which it has frankly admitted, it ought to be "gutted," if I may be permitted to use a very ugly word, in any such way as this. I think it ought to have an amount commensurate with the character and quality of work which it is doing.

Mr. LODGE. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. McKELLAR. I yield.

Mr. LODGE. Several of my colleagues on this side of the aisle who are members of the committee have been asking me whether the acting chairman of the Appropriations Committee is defending the action of the committee. I ask that in a spirit of seeking information.

Mr. McKELLAR. I am stating the picture just as I see it. All of us, including the Senator from Massachusetts, reserve the right to say what we desire to say.

Mr. LODGE. Absolutely; and I hope the Senator does not think that I am criticizing him in any way.

Mr. McKELLAR. I hope the Senator is not.

Mr. LODGE. I certainly would not do such a thing; but I was curious to know whether it was the custom for the chairman of the committee, or the acting chairman, to defend the action of the committee.

Mr. McKELLAR. That has been the custom heretofore, just as it has been the custom for the leader on the side which is responsible for the Government

to help committees on the floor. However, our leader has opposed two bills, so I think we might as well be perfectly unconventional and submit the matter just as we see it. That is what I wish to do in this case. I differ with my colleagues. The vote on the main amendment was very close. I think it was 12 to 10. I will ask the Senator from Massachusetts whether that statement is correct. Was not the vote 12 to 10?

Mr. LODGE. On the motion-picture amendment?

Mr. McKELLAR. No; the main amendment, which was the amendment of the Senator from Louisiana [Mr. OVERTON], confining the appropriation to a little more than \$3,000,000. That amendment was adopted by a vote of 12 to 10, or a margin of only 2 votes. The vote was very close.

Under those circumstances, as I have tried to explain the action, I am trying to be perfectly fair. I am telling exactly what our successful opponents got in this measure, and what they cut out of it.

I disagree with the reductions in these appropriations. We must pass a bill. The only question is as to the amount. We must decide whether to cut it all out, as the House did, or to allow \$3,500,000, as the Senate committee has done, or to allow what I think is a fair sum, something in the neighborhood of \$6,000,000, for this activity. I am making an argument for that amount at this time, because I feel that even if the domestic branch is in the entire control of a good Republican from Oregon, it will be honestly administered. That is all we want in this war. I do not want to have politics enter into the transaction. I am as much opposed to political propaganda in this activity as is any other Senator. I do not think that this organization ought to be engaged in political propaganda. I have said so 40 times while the hearings were being held. I stand by that statement.

Mr. OVERTON. Mr. President, will the Senator yield in order that a message from the House may be laid before the Senate?

Mr. McKELLAR. Certainly.

EMERGENCY FLOOD-CONTROL WORK

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. McFARLAND in the chair) laid before the Senate the amendment of the House of Representatives to the bill (S. 1134) to provide for emergency flood-control work made necessary by recent floods, and for other purposes.

Mr. OVERTON. Mr. President, I move that the Senate disagree to the amendment of the House, ask a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and that the Chair appoint the conferees on the part of the Senate.

The motion was agreed to; and the Presiding Officer appointed Mr. OVERTON, Mr. CLARK of Missouri, and Mr. McNARY conferees on the part of the Senate.

Mr. LUCAS. Am I to understand that the House has disagreed to the \$10,000,000 authorization?

Mr. OVERTON. No, it has not disagreed to that part of it. It struck out

everything but the \$10,000,000 authorization.

Mr. McNARY. Mr. President, a parliamentary inquiry.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator will state it.

Mr. McNARY. I would get much more satisfaction if the Chair would not speak at the same time someone on the floor is speaking.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair has the right-of-way over a Senator.

Mr. McNARY. I appreciate that. The Chair then should order that situation, and bring it about. What did the Chair say?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair was appointing the conferees. The Chair appointed the Senator from Louisiana [Mr. OVERTON], the Senator from Missouri [Mr. CLARK], and the Senator from Oregon [Mr. McNARY] conferees on the part of the Senate.

Mr. McNARY. I am sorry about that, but I wanted to impress upon the Chair the difficulty of understanding a Senator who is speaking on the floor at the same time a statement is being made by the Chair.

Mr. OVERTON. I will say to the Senator from Illinois that what the House did was to amend the Senate bill and strike out all the amendments contained in the Senate bill.

Mr. LUCAS. Did the House strike out the two amendments offered by the Senator from Missouri [Mr. CLARK]?

Mr. OVERTON. Yes.

Mr. LUCAS. And also the railroad amendment offered by the Senator from Missouri [Mr. TRUMAN]?

Mr. OVERTON. Yes.

Mr. LUCAS. But they did not strike out the \$10,000,000 authorization?

Mr. OVERTON. No; they did not disturb the \$10,000,000 authorization.

Mr. LUCAS. I thank the Senator from Louisiana.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR WAR AGENCIES IN THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill (H. R. 2968) making appropriations for war agencies in the Executive Office of the President for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1944, and for other purposes.

Mr. McKELLAR. Mr. President, unless some Senator has a question to ask, I am through.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. McKELLAR. Yes.

Mr. LUCAS. I should like to ask the Senator a question with respect to the appropriation for printing and graphic purposes of a million and a quarter dollars, as I recall, which was stricken out of the bill. Will the Senator elaborate upon that so that I may understand it?

Mr. McKELLAR. As I recall, the only evidence which we had concerning this matter was the evidence of the various officers in this activity, and three advertising men. They all testified in favor of—I say they all testified in favor, but I think the advertising men merely said that they approved what this board was doing, and spoke especially of advertising. Their evidence related to advertis-

ing, and to the good work which was being done by the bureau of graphics and printing, and I do not think it should be excluded. That is what I have to say about it.

Mr. LUCAS. I am glad to hear the Senator's explanation. I was wondering whether the graphic and printing work was not more or less tied into the whole scheme.

Mr. McKELLAR. I think it is, and I think that so far as the political side of it is concerned, the selection of Mr. Hoyt is an absolute assurance that there is no purpose to use this organization as a political instrument, but that it is to be used as a means of advertising this country in the great war.

Mr. LUCAS. I will say to the Senator, along that line, that I am happy Mr. Hoyt was selected. I am glad they selected a Republican to head this particular branch of the work at the present time because certainly he is a good Republican, as the Senator has said, and no complaint could be made along political lines.

Mr. McKELLAR. I think he is a good citizen and a good man.

Mr. HILL. Mr. President, will the Senator yield?

Mr. McKELLAR. I yield.

Mr. LUCAS. May I finish with one remark?

Mr. McKELLAR. I yield to the Senator from Illinois.

Mr. LUCAS. I wish to say that I am as strongly opposed to political propaganda or political considerations in connection with the spending of this money as is the Senator from Tennessee or any other Member of the Senate. I am glad that he has brought this matter to the attention of the Senate.

Mr. HILL. Mr. President—

Mr. McKELLAR. I yield to the Senator from Alabama.

Mr. HILL. As will be recalled, before the creation of the O. W. I. many persons felt that they were not receiving the information which they should have. It was felt that the War Department, the Navy Department, and other departments were perhaps withholding too much information.

The public was willing to have any information withheld which would be adverse to our war effort, or give encouragement to the enemy. However, outside that exception they felt they ought to have the information, and I think we agree that they should have it. Is it not true that the Office of War Information really and truly is, in a way, fighting a battle to give information to the people, and to cause other agencies to release information so that it may be given to the people?

Mr. McKELLAR. That is accurate. I think they have made some mistakes. It seemed to me that some of their publications were wholly unwarranted; but that is neither here nor there. They said that they had come to the same conclusion themselves, and frankly admitted it.

As the Senator from Alabama knows, and as all other Senators know, there is no Member of the Senate more devoted to Government economy than I

remarks in the RECORD and include therein an address delivered by our distinguished colleague from Connecticut, Mrs. CLARE BOOTH LUCE, delivered at the Republican State Convention held at Appleton, Wis., last Sunday.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

[The matter referred to appears in the Appendix.]

Mr. RAMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to extend my own remarks in the RECORD and include therein an editorial from the Toledo Times.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

[The matter referred to appears in the Appendix.]

DISSENSION ON THE HOME FRONT

Mr. WIGGLESWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend my remarks.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. WIGGLESWORTH. Mr. Speaker, Vice President WALLACE has attacked the Secretary of Commerce, accusing him of obstructing the acquisition of critical materials required for the war effort and, among other things, of impeding the delivery of essential materials to General MacArthur.

Secretary Jones has replied that the 28-page attack is filled with malice and misstatements.

This further evidence of dissension and lack of coordination on the home front is deplorable. It is unthinkable that these two top officials in the Roosevelt administration are unable to compose their differences and cooperate in the war effort.

Secretary Jones, in effect, asks for a congressional investigation. In compliance with his request, I am today introducing a resolution providing for a thoroughgoing investigation of the charges made.

Division of authority, bungling, and incompetency cannot be allowed to continue on the home front without undermining the war effort. The home front must be made worthy of the millions who must bear the brunt of the conflict on the fighting fronts overseas.

PRICE STABILIZATION PROGRAM

Mr. McLEAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend my remarks.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

[Mr. McLEAN addressed the House. His remarks appear in the Appendix of today's RECORD.]

CONGRESS NOT TRYING TO STOP RUN-AWAY INFLATION

Mr. PATMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. PATMAN. Mr. Speaker, in the letter Mr. Chester Davis wrote to the President he said the reason subsidies would not work was that we had not passed tax laws that would siphon off enough purchasing power. The President replied that he has been trying to get tax laws passed. I do not think the President is responsible and I do not think Mr. Morgenthau is responsible. You will recall that this Congress has resented in the past the administration's sending bills up to the House and asking the House to pass them. A revenue bill must originate in the House. The Treasury has adopted the policy of being ready and willing to submit any information and be helpful in any way in the world, but not being in the position of being dictatorial and telling the House what to do. It is not Mr. Morgenthau's fault, it is the fault of Congress. Congress will be to blame when we have run-away inflation, which we are on the brink of right now because we have not only not siphoned off taxes, we have crippled the only agency that is trying to stop inflation and even cut out the appropriation for the O. W. I., the only organization that has a well-planned and coordinated educational campaign to stop run-away inflation.

THE BERMUDA CONFERENCE AND AFTER

Mr. DICKSTEIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend my remarks.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

[Mr. DICKSTEIN addressed the House. His remarks appear in the Appendix of today's RECORD.]

CONGRESSIONAL RECESS

Mr. RANKIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend my remarks.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection?

There was no objection.

[Mr. RANKIN addressed the House. His remarks appear in the Appendix of today's RECORD.]

PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE HOUSE

Mr. DONDERO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that on tomorrow, after the legislative business of the day and any other special orders, I may address the House for 15 minutes.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

There was no objection.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

Mr. SMITH of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to extend my remarks in the RECORD and include therein an editorial.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection? There was no objection.

[The matter referred to appears in the Appendix.]

Mr. LECOMPTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to extend my remarks in the Appendix and include a resolution of the America Legion Post of Iowa.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection? There was no objection.

[The matter referred to appears in the Appendix.]

THE BATTLE OF WASHINGTON

Mr. SPRINGER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection? There was no objection.

Mr. SPRINGER. Mr. Speaker, the Battle of Washington reaches a crescendo of thinly veiled innuendoes and crashing derogations.

With the Chairman of the Board of Economic Warfare—who in another capacity is the Vice President of the United States—charging the head of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation with “hamstringing bureaucracy” we have the unusual case of a bureaucrat calling a bureaucrat a bureaucrat. To this discordant note President Roosevelt adds a charge against newspaper men of responsibility for the bickering in Washington.

It begins to look as if the “Bureautopia” of the visionaries is in danger of becoming like the proverbial house divided against itself—it cannot stand.

But as dark as the picture may be there is always the silver lining. There is yet hope for “horse sense,” logic, and sound American fundamentals, and we can be thankful that they are still with us to fall back on.

The SPEAKER. The time of the gentleman has expired.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

Mr. LUDLOW. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to extend my remarks in the RECORD and include two letters I have received from Mr. McNutt, Chairman of the War Manpower Commission.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection? There was no objection.

[The matter referred to will appear hereafter in the Appendix.]

SETTLEMENT AND LIQUIDATION OF WAR CONTRACTS

Mr. MAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend my remarks.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection? There was no objection.

Mr. MAY. Mr. Speaker, I want to call attention to a situation that has arisen in the last few days with respect to the settlement and liquidation of war contracts.

About a week ago a representative of the War Department very courteously came to me, as Chairman of the House Committee on Military Affairs, with a proposal that there be attached as a legislative rider to two appropriation bills involving some \$105,000,000, permission

to make settlement and close out contracts. It was very considerate of him to say to the legislative committee that they would like to attach a legislative rider. Of course, I objected, and the committee proceeded to have hearings on the matter.

We find that it is a difficult and complicated question; that the Comptroller General has advised me that it is so far-reaching that he is even unable to give us an opinion at this time on it. I merely wanted to call attention to the fact that, due to the recess, we have postponed completion of the hearings and final disposition of the matter until after the recess, in order that we may give it deliberate and careful consideration, and have time to think it over. This ought to emphasize the error involved in the practice of attaching legislative riders on appropriation bills.

The SPEAKER. The time of the gentleman has expired.

EMERGENCY FLOOD-CONTROL WORK

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of the bill (S. 1134), to provide for emergency flood-control work made necessary by recent floods, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Mississippi?

Mr. MARTIN of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, will the gentleman from Mississippi explain the bill for the benefit of the House?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Mr. Speaker, this is a bill to provide \$10,000,000 as an emergency appropriation for the repair of flood-control works damaged or destroyed, and to strengthen those works, by the recent major floods extending from the Wabash River in Illinois and Indiana to the Arkansas River in Kansas, and embracing excessive floods along the Wabash, the Sangamon, the Illinois, the upper Mississippi, the Missouri, the Arkansas, and the tributaries of those rivers, in which the Chief of Engineers estimated that some 9,000,000 acres of land were inundated and some \$96,000,000 in damages were done. This bill is reported unanimously by the Committee on Flood Control to the House, after extensive investigation and hearings. It is my purpose in calling up the Senate bill, which has been passed by the other body, to offer the House bill as amended by the committee, as a substitute for the Senate bill.

Mr. MARTIN of Massachusetts. And in that way you could send it to the conference committee for the final draft?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Exactly.

Mr. HARNESS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MARTIN of Massachusetts. I yield.

Mr. HARNESS of Indiana. In my district in several counties through which the Wabash River flows this Congress 3 or 4 years ago authorized a survey of the Wabash and its tributaries for purposes of certain flood-control work. During this recent flood thousands of acres of corn and other crops were de-

stroyed. I wonder if any of the funds made available by this bill will be allocated to the project along the Wabash River, to correct that situation?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. It will be allocated not only to the Wabash but along all other rivers where existing works, whether constructed by local interests, by the people themselves, or by the Federal Government's participation were damaged or destroyed, and for strengthening those levees, and other flood-control works.

Mr. HARNESS of Indiana. Is there anything provided for dredging the channel of the river to keep it from overflowing thousands of acres of rich bottom land in that valley? This authorizes the War Department or some other agency to dredge the channel in that river to stop these disastrous floods?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. I may say in response to the gentleman's question that this is an emergency appropriation. It does not authorize the construction of any new works. Those works could only be authorized after the Chief of Engineers has submitted a report and after the committee and the Congress have adopted that report. But I may say that the House has conducted hearings with respect to the Wabash and other rivers upon which we have heard Members of the Senate and the House, and those hearings will be available soon, and it is proposed for new work to submit a comprehensive bill sometime later to deal with additional projects and authorizations. But this matter here deals with the restoration of works along the Wabash and along the other rivers of the country which have been damaged or destroyed by floods, recently.

Mr. PLOESER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MARTIN of Massachusetts. I yield to the gentleman from Missouri.

Mr. PLOESER. I want to inquire of the gentleman whether this bill provides for immediate repair work for the levees along the river to protect the valleys.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. The gentleman is correct. Under existing law, section 5 of the Flood Control Act of 1941, \$1,000,000 is authorized to be allocated for flood repairs and for flood relief, annually.

The Chief of Engineers reports that because of three excessive floods along the Missouri River, two excessive floods, one being 9 feet higher than any flood which had occurred previously along the Arkansas River, and excessive floods along the upper Mississippi River, that the \$1,000,000 is utterly inadequate, and the committee, following the recommendation of the Chief of Engineers, proposes to make available \$10,000,000 for emergency work.

Mr. PLOESER. I would like to add for the benefit of the House that the Corps of Engineers has been working very arduously and I understand are without funds for this emergency work.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. That is one of the purposes of this legislation, to provide additional funds.

Mr. PLOESER. I also want to say on behalf of a great many people who are living in the Missouri River Valley, that

I compliment the Committee on the splendid work it is doing.

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MARTIN of Massachusetts. I yield to the gentleman from Nebraska.

Mr. CURTIS. As I understand this bill and the situation regarding the section 5 emergency money under the flood-control law is made necessary by two factors. Those are the several recent floods, plus the fact that the War Production Board, and perhaps some other agencies, have stopped the various flood-control works that were under way.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. That is generally true, primarily because of the floods themselves, and because even if the War Production Board had not stopped the regular work this emergency repair work is so important that it should be done.

Mr. CURTIS. One other question. There has been considerable said here about the Missouri River and the Missouri River Basin, and there was before the committee a special bill to authorize some \$3,000,000 for emergency work on that river. I would like to ask the gentleman from Mississippi to tell us for the record how this bill covers that situation.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. I propose to take that up in the 5-minute discussion. I will say that the gentleman from Nebraska appeared before the committee, of which he is a prominent and valuable member, as well as the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. CANNON], and other gentlemen who have been interested in this matter. This is a committee bill, and covers all the bills.

Mr. DIRKSEN. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MARTIN of Massachusetts. I yield to the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. DIRKSEN. It is my understanding that even if we authorize this expenditure this money cannot be used to build levees beyond their preexisting heights nor to construct new levees. It is just the repair work and the replacements, where they have to be made, that are to be covered in this bill.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. The gentleman is generally correct in his understanding, but I want to be perfectly frank with the gentleman and the House and State that it is the recommendation of the Committee on Flood Control that this bill should go further than the previous emergency works. In other words, if a levee has been damaged, or if it has been crevassed and it is found necessary to increase the height of the levee, or to increase the section of the replacement, the language of this bill will permit of the building of the levee to a height and section to which it should be built rather than at a later time rebuilding the repaired levee. The work that can be done under this bill, while it is emergency in character, will permit levees where repaired or restored to be constructed to the proper height and section because it is felt it would be wasting Federal funds just to build the levees to the former height when the entire levee line should be rebuilt later. As stated, the bill does not pro-

vide for constructing flood-control works where none now exists; it does not provide for major improvements or extensions, but only for repairs and minor improvements.

Mr. DIRKSEN. That is the only new work that can actually be done?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. On existing levees, if such work is found necessary.

Mr. BROOKS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MARTIN of Massachusetts. I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana.

Mr. BROOKS. There is no provision in this bill made for loans to those who have suffered flood damages?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. No; not at all. The Congress has made ample provision for rehabilitation loans, and under existing statutes loans may be made to individuals suffering flood damages, as was done in previous floods.

Mr. COLE of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MARTIN of Massachusetts. I yield to the gentleman from Missouri.

Mr. COLE of Missouri. The gentleman from Mississippi says this bill authorizes the restoration of levees.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Yes.

Mr. COLE of Missouri. Does it also authorize the extending of the levees where that is necessary?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. I have answered the gentleman's question by saying that it authorizes the restoration of levees and the strengthening of levees so as to tie in to a levee where repaired or restored that may be built larger than it was formerly, and in that sense the gentleman is correct.

Mr. COLE of Missouri. We have a bad situation on the Missouri side of the Missouri River up in northwest Missouri. Many of the levees there have been damaged or destroyed by the recent floodwaters and must be repaired and replaced and in many instances should be extended in order to protect thousands of acres of fertile Missouri soil.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. I am thoroughly aware of that and the committee went into it very carefully. Permanent provision for new works will be contained in a bill the committee proposes to bring in later.

Mr. MARTIN of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

Mr. RANKIN. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, how much does this bill carry?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Ten million dollars.

Mr. RANKIN. Does it provide for any dams on these streams?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. No. All this bill provides for is just the restoring and repairing of existing works where they were constructed by the local interests or by the Federal Government and strengthening repairs and restorations, where made, so that the restorations may be permanent.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the present consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That the sum of \$10,000,000 is hereby authorized to be appro-

priated as an emergency fund to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers for the repair, restoration, and strengthening of levees and other flood-control works which have been threatened or destroyed by the recent floods: *Provided*, That pending the appropriation of said sum the Secretary of War may allot from existing flood-control appropriations such sums as may be necessary for the immediate prosecution of the work herein authorized, such appropriations to be reimbursed from the appropriation herein authorized when made: *Provided further*, That funds allotted under this authority shall not be diverted from the unobligated funds from the appropriation "Flood control, general", made available in the War Department Civil Appropriation Act, 1944, for specific purposes therein enumerated.

SEC. 2. In order to aid in the rehabilitation, including necessary relocation, protection, and elevation above flood plane, of railroads engaged in interstate commerce whose properties have been destroyed or damaged in whole or in part by flood in 1943, the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, with the approval of the Interstate Commerce Commission, is authorized to make rehabilitation loan or loans to any such railroad or to the receivers or trustees thereof in such manner, upon such terms and conditions, and with such security as the Corporation may prescribe; except that each such loan shall bear interest at a rate not to exceed 3 percent per annum and shall contain provisions for the amortization thereof over a period of not to exceed 40 years. The total amount of loans and commitments to railroads, receivers, and trustees under this section shall not exceed at any one time \$25,000,000. The amount of note, bond, debenture, and other such obligation which the Corporation is authorized and empowered to issue and to have outstanding at any one time under existing law is hereby increased by an amount sufficient to carry out the provision of this section. The proceeds of any loan made pursuant to this section shall be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers.

SEC. 3. The provisions of this act shall be deemed to be additional and supplemental to, and not in lieu of, existing general legislation authorizing allocation of flood-control funds for restoration of flood-control works threatened or destroyed by flood.

SEC. 4. The Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized and directed to suspend all quota provisions and other limitations with respect to the production of agricultural commodities in any area affected by floods in 1943 whenever he finds that crops have been destroyed or plantings interfered with or washed out in such area by reason of such floods, and he is further authorized to permit the maximum planting in such area of any crops which are essential to the war effort.

SEC. 5. The War Production Board, and every other governmental agency which has jurisdiction over allocations and priorities relating to farm machinery and equipment, are authorized and directed immediately to take such steps as may be necessary to provide for the necessary allocations and priorities to enable farmers in the areas affected by floods in 1943 to replace and repair their farm machinery and equipment which was destroyed or damaged by such floods, and to continue farming operations.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I offer an amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. WHITTINGTON: Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

"That the sum of \$10,000,000 is hereby authorized to be appropriated as an emergency

fund to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers for the repair, restoration, and strengthening of levees and other flood-control works which have been threatened or destroyed by the recent floods: *Provided*, That pending the appropriation of said sum the Secretary of War may allot from existing flood-control appropriations such sums as may be necessary for the immediate prosecution of the work herein authorized, such appropriations to be reimbursed from the appropriation herein authorized when made: *Provided further*, That funds allotted under this authority shall not be diverted from the unobligated funds from the appropriation "Flood control, general", made available in the War Department Civil Appropriation Act, 1944, for specific purposes therein enumerated.

"SEC. 2. The provisions of this act shall be deemed to be additional and supplemental to, and not in lieu of, existing general legislation authorizing allocation of flood-control funds for restoration of flood-control works threatened or destroyed by flood."

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Mr. Speaker, with the indulgence of the House I should like to make a brief statement.

The substitute I offer is the bill reported by the House Committee on Flood Control with the committee amendment. As will be noticed from the House committee report on this bill the Senate amended S. 1134 by including the language of the House bill as reported, and in addition to the language of the House bill the Senate authorized \$25,000,000 for loans to railroads, on account of flood damages, authorized rehabilitation loans, and authorized the suspension of quotas under the Agricultural Adjustment Act where recent floods occurred. It is our view that the House should adopt the bill as reported by the House Committee on Flood Control, the purpose being to authorize \$10,000,000, the amount recommended by the Chief of Engineers, approved by the Secretary of War, and approved by the Director of the Budget as being absolutely imperative to provide for the repair and restoration of levees and other flood works throughout the Nation. It is the view of the Committee on Flood Control that the other amendments in the Senate bill are not satisfactory and that the adoption of the amendment I propose should enable this legislation to go to conference where the amendments adopted by the Senate may be considered.

Mr. ZIMMERMAN. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. I shall be delighted to yield.

Mr. ZIMMERMAN. Is there any limit as to what streams shall be considered when these repairs are made? In other words, will it apply to tributary streams as well as to the main stems of the principal rivers?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. The only limitation at all is that it is applicable to all the rivers of the United States. As I stated a few moments ago, the gentleman from Nebraska, the gentleman from Kansas [Mr. CURTIS], and the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. CANNON], and several Members from Indiana and Illinois introduced similar bills. Most of those bills were applicable to the streams in which the individual Members were in-

terested. It was the view of the Committee on Flood Control that all of the rivers where floods have occurred should be treated alike, and the pending bill is not restricted to any stream or to the tributaries of any stream.

Mr. ZIMMERMAN. I take this opportunity of complimenting the very able chairman of the Committee on Flood Control for bringing in this bill which I feel will have a very great beneficial interest to that part of the country which was so badly devastated by the recent floods.

Mr. GRANGER. What limitation is placed on the use of these funds by the words "recent floods"?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. That is about as broad as language could be. The words "recent floods" would be for interpretation of the Chief of Engineers, but it is the intent to include the floods of 1943. The testimony before the committee, which went into this matter very carefully, showed that the recent floods extended from the Sangamon River and the Wabash primarily to the Arkansas in Kansas and the upper Missouri, but that there were also floods in other parts of the country, including California.

Mr. Speaker, I believe with that statement, unless there are some further questions, that this bill should be passed. It is an emergency matter. As I previously stated, it provides for the repair and restoration along every stream and every river along with floods have occurred. Of course, it is an emergency measure and does not undertake to provide for new flood works that have not been heretofore constructed by local interests or authorized by the Congress of the United States, and constructed by the Chief of Engineers.

Mr. NORRELL. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. I yield to the gentleman from Arkansas.

Mr. NORRELL. Is this the bill to which Senator McCLELLAN offered an amendment in the Senate in reference to the building of roads that were damaged by flood waters?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. I may say in answer to the gentleman's question that I do not recall the junior Senator from Arkansas having offered such an amendment to this bill, but I understood that the junior Senator did offer an amendment to the highway bill which will come up shortly for consideration, which bill is now in conference.

Mr. CLASON. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts.

Mr. CLASON. As a member of the committee, I want to say that the full committee is behind this bill. I felt it should be reported in some form unanimously. It does contain a provision which gives a little advantage to two groups of projects; however, those were protected and taken care of in earlier legislation. The purpose of the provision in the bill is to insure that those particular projects which had already obtained priority in earlier legislation would not be interfered with by virtue of this emergency legislation. With reference

to the sums of money which would be made available, that will be spent in accordance with the determination of the Army engineers so that all parts of the rivers will be protected and does not result in one project getting an advantage over another. The money will be spent in the best interest of the whole country.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. And the gentleman from Massachusetts is quite well aware of the fact that I am in accord with his views. In my judgment neither the Hartford, Conn. nor the Louisiana projects should have been included. They are both already provided for under existing law.

Mr. CHIPERFIELD. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. I yield to the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. CHIPERFIELD. I want to commend the committee on its fine work in this matter.

The House bill which I offer as a substitute authorizes \$10,000,000 to be appropriated, and that pending the appropriation that amount may be allotted from existing flood-control appropriations, to be reimbursed provided no funds allotted under this authority shall be diverted from the unobligated funds made available in the War Department Civil Appropriation Act of 1944, for specific projects therein enumerated which are located in Connecticut and Louisiana. Section 2 of the bill provides that it is additional and supplemental to, and not in lieu of existing legislation.

The funds are to be expended by the Chief of Engineers in the repair, restoration, and strengthening of levees and other flood-control works which have been threatened or destroyed by recent floods. I invite attention to the report of the committee. The bill enlarges the authority of the Chief of Engineers in section 5 of the act of 1941. It authorizes the Chief of Engineers to strengthen the levees repaired or restored. As pointed out in the report, short extensions to provide adequate ties to high ground can be made. Short setbacks may be made, but only minor improvements can be made under the authority to strengthen. Where there is a break or a crevasse, the Secretary of War is authorized in restoring or rebuilding the levee or other protective work to construct it to the proper grade and section. If the recent floods demonstrated that the levee generally is too low or too small, the part restored or repaired could be built to the proper section. When the remaining levee is enlarged and raised, it would not, therefore, be necessary to rebuild or raise the part of the levee restored or repaired. The emergency appropriation does not authorize major improvements. As stated, the appropriation authorized is additional and supplemental to the existing authority for the allocation of \$1,000,000 annually. I trust that the bill will pass unanimously.

The SPEAKER. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. RANKIN. Mr. Speaker, I move to strike out the last word.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to revise and extend my own remarks in

the Record and include therein some tables which I have had prepared.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. RANKIN]?

There was no objection.

[Mr. RANKIN addressed the House. His remarks appear in the Appendix of today's Record.]

The SPEAKER. The time of the gentleman from Mississippi has expired.

The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. WHITTINGTON].

The amendment was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

A similar House bill (H. R. 3010), was laid on the table.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend the remarks I have previously made.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Mississippi?

There was no objection.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I merely wish to say that the report of the House Flood Control Committee is rather full and will give the Members full information with reference to the emergency measure, the provisions of the bill, and the damages on the various rivers of the country.

APPOINTMENTS TO UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

Mr. HARNESS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the present consideration of the bill (H. R. 3026) relating to appointments to the United States Military Academy and the United States Naval Academy in the case of redistricting of congressional districts.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Indiana?

Mr. McCORMACK. Reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, and I shall not object, will the gentleman from Indiana briefly state for the Record the purpose of the bill?

Mr. HARNESS of Indiana. The purpose of the proposed legislation is to provide in the case of cadets and midshipmen at either the Military or the Naval Academy, or nominees thereto, whose legal residence, by reason of redistricting the State, falls in a new congressional district, that such cadets, midshipmen, and nominees be charged to the new district, but to preserve the number of appointments otherwise authorized from the new district by temporarily increasing such number in an amount equal to the newly acquired cadets, midshipmen, and nominees.

Mr. McCORMACK. In view of the fact that I am one of the beneficiaries of this bill, I simply wanted a statement for the Record. I shall be very pleased to see this bill pass.



Folger
Forand
Fulbright
Gavagan
Gibson
Gordon
Gore
Gorski
Gossett
Granger
Grant, Ala.
Gregory
Hagen
Hare
Harless, Ariz.
Harris, Ark.
Harris, Va.
Hart
Hays
Heffernan
Hendricks
Hobbs
Hoch
Jackson
Jarman
Johnson,
Luther A.
Johnson,
Lyndon B.
Johnson, Okla.
Kee
Kefauver
Kelley
Keogh
Kerr
Kilday
Kirwan
Klein
LaFollette
Lane
Lanham
Larcade
Lea
Lemke

Ludlow
Lynch
McCord
McCormack
McGranery
McMillan
McMurray
Madden
Magnuson
Mahon
Mansfield,
Mont.
Marcantonio
May
Mills
Monroney
Murdoch
Murphy
Murray, Tenn.
Myers
Nichols
Norrell
O'Brien, Mich.
O'Connor
O'Neal
O'Toole
Outland
Pace
Patman
Patton
Peterson, Fla.
Peterson, Ga.
Pfeifer
Poage
Price
Priest
Rabaut
Ramspeck
Randolph
Rankin
Richards
Rivers
Robertson
Robinson, Utah

NAYS—200

Allen, Ill.
Andersen,
H. Carl
Anderson, Calif.
Andersen,
August H.
Andrews
Angell
Arends
Arnold
Auchincloss
Baldwin, N. Y.
Barrett
Bates, Mass.
Beall
Bell
Bender
Bennett, Mich.
Bennett, Mo.
Bishop
Blackney
Bland
Bolton
Boren
Brehm
Brown, Ohio
Buffett
Busbey
Butler
Canfield
Cannon, Mo.
Carlson, Kans.
Carlson, Ohio
Carter
Case
Chenoweth
Chipperfield
Church
Clason
Clevenger
Cole, Mo.
Cole, N. Y.
Compton
Crawford
Cunningham
Curtis
Day
Dewey
Dirksen
Disney
Ditter
Dondero
Douglas
Dworshak
Eaton
Ellis
Ellsworth
Elmer
Elston, Ohio

Engel
Fellows
Fenton
Fish
Gale
Gamble
Gathings
Gavin
Gearhart
Gerlach
Gilchrist
Gillie
Goodwin
Graham
Grant, Ind.
Griffiths
Gross
Gwynne
Hale
Hall
Leonard W.
Hallock
Hancock
Hartley
Heidinger
Herter
Hess
Hinshaw
Hoeven
Hoffman
Holmes, Mass.
Holmes, Wash.
Hope
Horan
Howell
Jeffrey
Jenkins
Jennings
Jensen
Johnson,
Anton J.
Johnson,
Calvin D.
Johnson, Ind.
Johnson,
J. Leroy
Jones
Jonkman
Judd
Kean
Kearney
Keefe
Kinzer
Kleberg
Knutson
Kunkel

Rogers, Calif.
Rowan
Sabath
Sadowski
Sasser
Satterfield
Scanlon
Schuetz
Sheppard
Sikes
Slaughter
Smith, Va.
Smith, W. Va.
Snyder
Somers, N.Y.
Sparkman
Spence
Starnes, Ala.
Steagall
Sullivan
Summers, Tex.
Tarver
Thomas, Tex.
Thomason
Vincent, Ky.
Voorhis, Calif.
Walter
Ward
Wasielewski
Weaver
Weiss
Welch
Wene
Whelchel, Ga.
White
Whitten
Whittington
Wickersham
Winstead
Woodrum, Va.
Worley
Wright
Zimmerman

Stanley
Stearns, N. H.
Stefan
Stewart
Stockman
Summer, Ill.
Sundstrom
Taber
Talbot
Talle

Taylor
Thomas, N. J.
Tibbott
Towe
Troutman
Vorys, Ohio
Vursell
Wadsworth
Weichel, Ohio
West

NOT VOTING—47

Barden
Barry
Bradley, Mich.
Capozzoli
Cochran
Culkin
Drewry
Fay
Fitzpatrick
Ford
Fulmer
Furlong
Gallagher
Gifford
Green
Hall
Edwin Arthur O'Hara

Harness, Ind.
Hébert
Hollfield
Izac
Johnson, Ward
Kennedy
Kilburn
King
Lesinski
Maloney
Mansfield, Tex.
Mason
Merritt
Morrison, N. C.
Norton
O'Brien, Ill.
O'Hara

So the motion was rejected.

The Clerk announced the following pairs:

On this vote:

Mrs. Norton for, with Mr. Gallagher against.
Mr. Merritt for, with Mr. Plumley against.
Mr. Vinson of Georgia for, with Mr. Shafer against.

Mr. Fay for, with Mr. Robison of Kentucky against.

Mr. Fitzpatrick for, with Mr. Phillips against.

Mr. Ford for, with Mr. O'Hara against.

Mr. Barry for, with Mr. Kilburn against.

Mr. Sheridan for, with Mr. Gifford against.
Mr. Capozzoli for, with Mr. Treadway against.

Mr. Kennedy for, with Mr. Pracht against.
Mr. Furlong for, with Mr. Edwin Arthur Hall against.

Mr. Drewry for, with Mr. Harness of Indiana against.

Mr. Mansfield of Texas for, with Mr. Bradley of Michigan against.

Mr. Lesinski for, with Mr. Mason against.

Mr. Hollfield for, with Mr. Ward Johnson against.

General pairs:

Mr. Cochran with Mr. Rowe.
Mr. Hébert with Mr. Stevenson.
Mr. O'Brien of Illinois with Mr. Culkin.
Mr. Tolan with Mr. Van Zandt.

Mr. COX changed his vote from "nay" to "aye."

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER. The question is, Will the House on reconsideration agree to pass the bill, the objections of the President to the contrary notwithstanding?

Mr. STEAGALL. Mr. Speaker, this measure has had as thorough study by the Congress as any measure coming within my knowledge in recent times. It was approved by the House, and by the Senate, and, after long study, in conference.

Mr. MARCANTONIO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

Mr. SABATH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will state it.

Mr. SABATH. Has the gentleman from Alabama the right to address the House; and if so, has anyone else the right to have the same amount of time?

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Alabama is recognized and controls 1 hour. He is privileged to move the previous question at any time.

Mr. STEAGALL. Mr. Speaker, in deference to the wishes of the House, and to the votes in the House, and in the interest of expediency, I move the previous question.

The previous question was ordered.

The SPEAKER. The Clerk will call the roll.

The question was taken; and there were—yeas 228, nays 154, not voting 49, as follows:

[Roll No. 129]

YEAS—228

Abernethy
Allen, Ill.
Andersen,
H. Carl
Anderson, Calif.
Andersen,
August H.
Andrews
Angell
Arends
Arnold
Auchincloss
Baldwin, Md.
Baldwin, N.Y.
Barrett
Bates, Mass.
Beall
Bell
Bender
Bennett, Mich.
Bennett, Mo.
Bishop
Blackney
Bolton
Boren
Boykin
Brehm
Brown, Ga.
Brown, Ohio
Buffett
Busbey
Butler
Canfield
Cannon, Fla.
Cannon, Mo.
Carlson, Kans.
Carlson, Ohio
Case
Chenoweth
Chipperfield
Church
Clason
Clevenger
Cole, Mo.
Cole, N. Y.
Colmer
Compton
Costello
Cox
Crawford
Cunningham
Curtis
Day
Dewey
Dirksen
Disney
Ditter
Domengeaux
Dondero
Douglas
Dworshak
Eaton
Elliot
Ellis
Ellsworth
Elmer
Elston, Ohio
Engel
Fellows
Fenton
Fernandez
Fish
Fischer
Gale
Gamble
Gathings
Gavin
Gearhart
Gerlach

Gilchrist
Gillette
Gille
Goodwin
Gossett
Graham
Grant, Ala.
Grant, Ind.
Griffiths
Gross
Gwynne
Hagen
Hale
Hall
Leonard W.
Hallock
Hancock
Hartley
Heidinger
Herter
Hess
Hill
Hinshaw
Hoeven
Hoffman
Holmes, Mass.
Holmes, Wash.
Hope
Horan
Howell
Hull
Jarman
Jeffrey
Jenkins
Jennings
Jensen
Johnson,
Anton J.
Johnson,
Calvin D.
Johnson, Ind.
Johnson,
J. Leroy
Jones
Jonkman
Judd
Kean
Kearney
Keefe
Kilday
Kinzer
Kleberg
Knutson
Kunkel
LaFollette
Lambertson
Landis
Lanham
Lea
LeCompte
Lemke
Lewis
Luce
McCowan
McGehee
McGregor
McKenzie
McLean
McWilliams
Maas
Manasco
Martin, Iowa
Martin, Mass.
Marrow
Michener
Miller, Mo.
Miller, Nebr.

Miller, Pa.
Mills
Monkiewicz
Morrison, La.
Mott
Mruk
Mundt
Murray, Wis.
Newsome
Norman
O'Brien, N. Y.
O'Connor
O'Konski
Peterson, Ga.
Philbin
Pittenger
Ploeser
Poage
Poulson
Ramey
Rankin
Reece, Tenn.
Reed, Ill.
Reed, N. Y.
Rees, Kans.
Rizley
Rockwell
Rodgers, Pa.
Rogers, Mass.
Rohrbough
Rolph
Sauthoff
Schiffler
Schwabe
Scott
Simpson, Ill.
Simpson, Pa.
Slaughter
Smith, Maine
Smith, Ohio
Smith, Wis.
Springer
Stanley
Starnes, Ala.
Steagall
Stearns, N. H.
Stefan
Stewart
Stockman
Summer, Ill.
Summers, Tex.
Sundstrom
Taber
Talbot
Talle
Taylor
Thomas, N. J.
Tibbott
Towe
Troutman
Vorys, Ohio
Vursell
Wadsworth
Weichel, Ohio
West
Wheat
Whelchel, Ga.
Whitten
Whittington
Wigglesworth
Willey
Wilson
Winstead
Winter
Wolcott
Wolfenden, Pa.
Woodruff, Mich.

NAYS—154

Allen, La.	Gore	Face
Anderson, N. Mex.	Gorski	Patman
Bates, Ky.	Granger	Patton
Beckworth	Gregory	Peterson, Fla.
Bland	Hare	Pfeifer
Bloom	Hartless, Ariz.	Powers
Bonner	Harris, Ark.	Price
Bradley, Pa.	Harris, Va.	Priest
Brooks	Hart	Rabaut
Bryson	Hays	Ramspeck
Buckley	Heffernan	Randolph
Bulwinkle	Hendricks	Richards
Burch, Va.	Hobbs	Rivers
Burchill, N. Y.	Hoch	Robertson
Burdick	Jackson	Robinson, Utah
Burgin	Johnson	Rogers, Calif.
Byrne	Lyndon B. Johnson, Okla.	Rowan
Camp	Kee	Sabath
Carter	Kefauver	Sadowski
Celler	Kelley	Sasser
Chapman	Keogh	Satterfield
Clark	Kerr	Scanlon
Coffee	Kirwan	Schuetz
Cooley	Klein	Sheppard
Cooper	Lane	Sikes
Courtney	Larcade	Smith, Va.
Cravens	Ludlow	Smith, W. Va.
Creal	Lynch	Snyder
Crosser	McCord	Somers, N. Y.
Cullen	McCormack	Sparkman
Curley	McGranery	Spence
D'Alesandro	McMillan	Sullivan
Davis	McMurray	Tarver
Dawson	Madden	Thomas, Tex.
Delaney	Magnuson	Thomason
Dickstein	Mahon	Vincent, Ky.
Dies	Mansfield	Voorhis, Calif.
Dilweg	Mont.	Walter
Dingell	Marcantonio	Ward
Doughton	May	Wesielewski
Durham	Miller, Conn.	Weaver
Eberhart	Monroney	Weiss
Ellison, Md.	Murdock	Welch
Feighan	Murphy	Wene
Flannagan	Murray, Tenn.	White
Fogarty	Myers	Wickersham
Folger	Nichols	Wolverton, N. J.
Forand	Norrell	Woodrum, Va.
Fulbright	O'Brien, Mich.	Worley
Gavagan	O'Neal	Wright
Gibson	O'Toole	Zimmerman
Gordon	Outland	

NOT VOTING—49

Barden	Harness, Ind.	O'Hara
Barry	Hébert	O'Leary
Bradley, Mich.	Hollifield	Phillips
Capozzoli	Izac	Plumley
Cochran	Johnson, Ward	Pracht
Culkin	Kennedy	Robison, Ky.
Dewry	Kilburn	Rowe
Fay	King	Russell
Fitzpatrick	LeFevre	Shafer
Ford	Lesinski	Sheridan
Fulmer	Maloney	Short
Furlong	Mansfield, Tex.	Stevenson
Gallagher	Mason	Tolan
Gifford	Merritt	Treadway
Green	Morrison, N. C.	Van Zandt
Hall	Norton	Vinson, Ga.
Edwin Arthur	O'Brien, Ill.	

So (two-thirds not having voted in favor thereof) the bill was rejected.

The Clerk announced the following pairs:

On this vote.

Mr. Short and Mr. Shafer for, with Mr. Drewry against.

Mr. Gallagher and Mr. Plumley for, with Mrs. Norton against.

Mr. Phillips and Mr. O'Hara for, with Mr. Fitzpatrick against.

Mr. Kilburn and Mr. Mason for, with Mr. Sheridan against.

Mr. Gifford and Mr. Treadway for, with Mr. Ford against.

Mr. Stevenson and Mr. Robison of Kentucky for, with Mr. Kennedy against.

Mr. Pracht and Mr. Edwin Arthur Hall for, with Mr. Fay against.

Mr. Bradley of Michigan and Mr. LeFevre for, with Mr. Merritt against.

General pairs:

Mr. Hollifield with Mr. Ward Johnson.

Mr. Barry with Mr. Rowe.

Mr. Vinson of Georgia with Mr. Harness of Indiana.

Mr. Capozzoli with Mr. Van Zandt.
Mr. Cochran with Mr. Culkin.

Mr. FISHER changed his vote from "no" to "aye."

Mr. McGEHEE changed his vote from "no" to "aye."

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER. The message and the bill together with the accompanying papers is referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency, and ordered printed, and the Clerk will notify the Senate of the action of the House.

EMERGENCY FLOOD-CONTROL WORK—
CONFERENCE REPORT

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I present a conference report and statement upon the bill (S. 1134) to provide for emergency flood-control work made necessary by recent floods, and for other purposes, for printing under the rule.

The conference report and statement are as follows:

CONFERENCE REPORT

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the House to the bill (S. 1134) to provide for emergency flood-control work made necessary by recent floods, and for other purposes having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the Senate recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the House and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows: In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by the House amendment insert the following:

"That the sum of \$10,000,000 is hereby authorized to be appropriated as an emergency fund to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers for the repair, restoration, and strengthening of levees and other flood-control works which have been threatened or destroyed by the recent floods: *Provided*, That pending the appropriation of said sum the Secretary of War may allot from existing flood-control appropriations such sums as may be necessary for the immediate prosecution of the work herein authorized, such appropriations to be reimbursed from the appropriation herein authorized when made: *Provided further*, That funds allotted under this authority shall not be diverted from the unobligated funds from the appropriation "Flood control, general," made available in the War Department Civil Appropriation Act, 1944, for specific purposes therein enumerated.

"SEC. 2. The provisions of Section 1 shall be deemed to be additional and supplemental to, and not in lieu of, existing general legislation authorizing allocation of flood-control funds for restoration of flood-control works threatened or destroyed by flood.

"SEC. 3. The Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized and directed to suspend all quota provisions and other limitations with respect to the production of agricultural commodities on any lands affected by floods in 1943 whenever he finds that crops have been destroyed or plantings interfered with or washed out on said lands by reason of such floods, and he is further authorized to permit the maximum planting on such lands of any crops which are essential to the war effort, without the imposition of any penalty or the withholding of any benefit, soil conservation, or other agricultural payments.

"SEC. 4. The War Production Board, and every other governmental agency which has jurisdiction over allocations and priorities relating to farm machinery and equipment, are authorized and directed immediately to

take such steps as may be necessary to provide for the necessary allocations and priorities to enable farmers in the areas affected by floods in 1943 to replace and repair their farm machinery and equipment which was destroyed or damaged by such floods, and to continue farming operations."

And the House agree to the same.

WILL M. WHITTINGTON,
A. LEONARD ALLEN,
A. J. ELLIOTT,
CHARLES R. CLASON,
CARL T. CURTIS,

Managers on the part of the House.

JOHN H. OVERTON,
BENNETT C. CLARK,

Managers on the part of the Senate.

STATEMENT

The managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the House to the bill (S. 1134) entitled "A bill to provide for emergency flood-control work made necessary by recent floods, and for other purposes," submit the following statement in explanation of the effect of the action agreed upon and recommended in the accompanying conference report as to such an amendment, namely:

AMENDMENT

The Senate bill included H. R. 3010 with the committee amendment reported by the House Committee on Flood Control. In addition to including the provisions of the House bill, section 2 authorized the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to aid in the rehabilitation, including the necessary relocation, protection, and elevation above flood plane, of railroads engaged in interstate commerce whose properties have been destroyed, or damaged in whole or in part by flood in 1943, to make loans not to exceed at any one time \$25,000,000, at a rate of interest not to exceed 3 percent, upon such terms and conditions and with such security as the Corporation may prescribe. Under existing law the Reconstruction Finance Corporation is authorized to make such loans to railroads upon the approval of the Interstate Commerce Commission when such railroads are unable to obtain funds upon reasonable terms through banking channels or from the public, but requires adequate security, and the rate of interest is left to the discretion of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, which Corporation is authorized to make the loans at a rate in excess of or less than 3 percent. The loans heretofore made are generally at the rate of 4 percent, although other loans are made to railroads at rates of interest less than 3 percent. The proposed section eliminated the requirement of adequate security and eliminated other requirements of existing law. There is adequate existing law to authorize the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to make rehabilitation loans to railroads. The proposed section 2 would have changed existing law. The section was eliminated in conference.

Section 4 of the Senate bill authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to suspend quota provisions on any lands affected by floods in 1943. All quota provisions have been suspended except the provisions on cotton and tobacco. It is too late to plant either cotton or tobacco for 1943. The proposed section 4 does not, therefore, change existing law. It was agreed to with an amendment that no penalty would be imposed for exceeding the quotas and that no benefit soil conservation or other agricultural payment would be withheld for exceeding the quotas in 1943.

Section 5 of the said Senate bill directed the War Production Board and every other governmental agency having jurisdiction over allocations and priorities relating to farm machinery and equipment to provide the necessary allocations and priorities to enable farmers in the areas affected by floods in 1943 to replace and repair their farm machinery and equipment which was destroyed or dam-

aged by such floods. The said section is in accord with the policy that has been adopted by the War Production Board; in fact, the War Production Board has provided for the actual shipment of farm machinery and equipment into all areas where requests have been made, affected by the floods in 1943. No change is made, therefore, by this amendment in the existing law or regulations.

The House struck out all after the enacting clause in said Senate 1134 and inserted in lieu thereof the provisions of the House bill with the committee amendment as reported by the Committee on Flood Control.

The conference report agrees to the provisions of the House bill as passed by the House, which had been previously included in the bill. It eliminates section 2 of the Senate bill with respect to rehabilitation loans to railroads. It includes section 4 of the Senate bill with respect to quotas with the amendments eliminating penalties and making secure benefit payments. It also retains section 5 of the bill providing for priorities for farm machinery and equipment in flooded areas.

WILL M. WHITTINGTON,
A. LEONARD ALLEN,
A. J. ELLIOTT,
CHARLES R. CLASON,
CARL T. CURTIS,

Managers on the part of the House.

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate, by Mr. Frazier, its legislative clerk, announced that the Senate had passed, without amendment, a joint resolution of the House of the following title:

H. J. Res. 144. Joint resolution relating to the marketing of burley and flue-cured tobacco under the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended.

The message also announced that the Senate agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H. R. 2714) entitled "An act making appropriations to supply urgent deficiencies in certain appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1943, and for prior fiscal years, and for other purposes."

The message also announced that the Senate further insists on its amendment No. 61 to said bill.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1944—CONFERENCE REPORT

Mr. JOHNSON of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. JONES].

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, the amendment under consideration is an item that originally had a Budget estimate of \$150,000 when we brought the Interior bill into the House on May 20 this year. In the meantime a supplemental estimate of \$150,000 was furnished, which the House did not have before it to consider. Now the Budget estimate for this item is \$300,000. The Senate allowed this Budget estimate and \$2,450,000 for good measure, or eight times more than the Budget estimate. I say without fear of contradiction that the Bureau of Mines never had a better friend than this subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations. There was never any division of objective throughout the consideration of this bill on any item. The entire subcommittee on both sides of the aisle had only one objective before them, and that was, How could we help with funds absolutely necessary to carry on

the war effort, and uphold the Army, Navy, and marines with the necessary tools and equipment to do the job, and fulfill the requirements for food for victory?

Mr. COOLEY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. JONES. I have only 3 minutes. There is a Budget estimate of \$300,000. Your conferees have measured and will approach the differences between the House and the Senate with a constructive point of view to meet the demand of the war on the home and battle fronts. I want to say that I stand ready and willing to raise my sights above the Budget estimate. I yield to no man as far as being economy-minded is concerned, and the desire to save money.

Mr. COOLEY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. JONES. I cannot yield. I do not intend to be parsimonious with what the Bureau of Mines needs. I think we should have orderly procedure. I am willing to go considerably above the amount allowed by the Bureau of the Budget. I think, however, that we should set an amount that they can spend wisely and judiciously in connection with all of the other Bureau of Mines items which will demand their manpower, effort, and resources. With this approach that I, as one of the most economy-minded men on the committee, am willing to give them, I am sure the House will trust this subcommittee, a friend of the Bureau of Mines, to do an adequate job in conferring with Senate conferees to reach a satisfactory conclusion on this amendment that will help to win the war and feed our Army, Navy, Marines, and our people.

Mr. JOHNSON of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I now yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from West Virginia [Mr. RANDOLPH].

Mr. RANDOLPH. Mr. Speaker, I have listened with interest to the observations of the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. JONES], and I am sorry that I disagree with his viewpoint in connection with the proposal offered by the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. COOLEY]. I ask him, and I wish he would answer this question, What is the worth-while program in connection with the production and development of strategic materials, which the Bureau of Mines or the Federal Government could accomplish with something less than \$150,000?

What effective exploration for critical minerals could be developed? I believe it would be so meager as to be absolutely nullified from the standpoint of valuable results.

I call attention of the House to the Appendix of the RECORD of August 31, 1942, in which I set forth the picture as I saw it from the standpoint of the 18 strategic or critical war materials, which are found in the United States. I believe the Members from the various States might be interested in these deposits and their locations.

The State of California has 9 of these strategic or critical materials; the State of Nevada has 6 of these needed minerals; North Carolina has 6; Arizona, 7;

Virginia, 5; Colorado, 5; New York, 4; Idaho, 4; Montana, 3; Tennessee, 3; Utah, 3; Oregon, 3; New Mexico, 3; Arkansas, 3; Maryland, 3; Ohio, 2; Illinois, 2; Washington, 2; Georgia, 2; New Hampshire, 2; South Dakota, 2; Maine, 2. In the States of Nebraska, Vermont, Minnesota, Oklahoma, New Jersey, Wyoming, Kentucky, Rhode Island, Alabama, Massachusetts, West Virginia, Texas, Connecticut, South Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Missouri there is at least one of these strategic materials which we need to explore and possibly develop.

The gentleman from Ohio [Mr. JONES] did not reply to my query as to what sort of development or production program, taking the over-all picture of the United States as a whole, could be soundly gone into with the insufficient fund of less than \$150,000. I believe that he feels we must do the task on a much more expanded scale.

Mr. COOLEY. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. RANDOLPH. I yield to my friend.

Mr. COOLEY. I would like to ask the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. JONES], if the gentleman from West Virginia will permit, if when this \$149,000 was agreed upon by the House committee it was not the intention at that time to conduct a very limited investigation on western steel production, and if the House committee has not agreed to strike out the word "western" and to extend the investigation throughout the country, but at the same time has refused to provide adequate funds to do the job?

Mr. JONES. When the House had it there was only a Budget estimate of \$150,000. Since that time a supplementary estimate for \$150,000 came up since the hearing and since we considered it on the floor. So that we did not have an opportunity to consider it.

Mr. COOLEY. But it is a fact that the broader program, calling for \$750,000, has never been submitted to the Budget.

Mr. JONES. Oh, yes; \$150,000 was submitted to the Budget and allowed.

Mr. COOLEY. I am talking about \$2,750,000.

Mr. RANDOLPH. Mr. Speaker, I regretfully decline to yield for further colloquy between the two gentlemen.

The geologists have found deposits of 18 critical and strategic minerals within the continental limits of the United States, as follows:

Aluminum: New York, Tennessee, and North Carolina.

Antimony: Idaho, California, Nebraska.

Asbestos: Vermont, Arizona, Maryland.

Cadmium: Byproduct of zinc. Produced in plants of Colorado, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Montana, Maryland, Ohio, Oklahoma, Idaho, New Jersey, Utah.

Cryolite: Ivigut, Greenland.

Chromium: California, Oregon, Montana, Washington, Wyoming; also Kenai Peninsula in Alaska.

Fluorspar: Illinois, Kentucky, New Mexico, Nevada, Arizona, Colorado.

Graphite: New York, Nevada, Rhode Island, Georgia.

Iodine: California.

Manganese: Low grade, Alabama, California, Colorado, Idaho, Missouri, Nevada, New Mexico; high grade, Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Georgia, Idaho, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Montana, New Mexico, North Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia.

Mercury: Arkansas, California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Texas.

Mica: North Carolina, New Hampshire, Connecticut, South Dakota, Maine, Virginia, New York.

Nickel: Colorado, North Carolina, Nevada.

Platinum: California, Oregon, also Alaska.

Quartz crystal: New Hampshire, Arizona, California, North Carolina, Virginia, Maine, Maryland, New York, Ohio, Tennessee.

Tin: South Dakota, New Mexico, Virginia, North Carolina.

Titanium: Virginia, Arkansas, California.

Tungsten: Nevada, Arkansas, California.

Vanadium: Arizona, Colorado, Utah.

One of the sad commentaries on our preparation of America for the world struggle in which we are now engaged, was the fact that we had failed to develop a synthetic process for making rubber and gasoline and these other substitutes which we find we should have furthered in order to more successfully prosecute the war on the home front, as well as the fighting zones. Money spent on research is well spent and excellent dividends are paid, far beyond the extent involved in the initial money. Eventually Germany will be the loser in this conflict, but we find her advanced in some items over the United States in the fashion in which she has processed gasoline and rubber and other materials. Necessity caused her to dig deep. Perhaps we thought our abundance would always take care of our needs.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman from West Virginia has expired.

Mr. JOHNSON of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. ROBERTSON] such time as he may desire.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

Mr. ROBERTSON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to extend my remarks in the Appendix of the Record and to include therewith an excerpt from the testimony of James A. Emory before the Ways and Means Committee on the Bituminous Coal Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

There was no objection.

[The matter referred to appears in the Appendix.]

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATION BILL, 1944—CONFERENCE REPORT

Mr. JOHNSON of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from California [Mr. VOORHIS].

Mr. VOORHIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the motion made by my colleague from North Carolina [Mr. COOLIDGE] primarily because I am hopeful that by a survey of this character, which cannot be adequate unless

the gentleman's motion is adopted, there may be additional information secured about the extent of mineral deposits, notably of iron ore deposits throughout the country.

It was only a few weeks ago that Mr. Batchelder, of the War Production Board, told the Open Hearth Association that there never would be enough steel to meet our war needs. Every claimant agency has been cut about 30 percent under its own estimate of its requirements as far as the consumption of steel is concerned.

Mr. JENSEN. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. VOORHIS of California. I think the gentleman is going to anticipate some of the things I am about to say if I have time.

Mr. JENSEN. I just wanted to ask the gentleman if he does not realize that no matter how much we appropriated, even if we appropriated a billion dollars, it would not help the situation any if they did not take the lid off—

Mr. VOORHIS of California. I heard what the gentleman said earlier in the day, and I think he is quite right. I think my remarks will bolster his position if I can go ahead.

The job that we have to do—and when I say “we” I mean the Congress, the War Production Board, and everybody else—is first to produce enough steel to win the war. Second, and only second, to worry about how it is going to be distributed afterward.

I am fearful, however, that certain counsels have prevailed within the W. P. B. which have put first concern on the possibility of an excess of post-war capacity of production in this industry in this country instead of on the maximum production at the present time when it is so desperately needed.

We ought not to have to reduce the demands for steel for agriculture or the Army or the Navy if it is possible to get a supply large enough to meet these demands. I believe it can be made possible. Personally, I believe that the possibility of production is much more and that we could achieve a much larger production than has heretofore appeared.

There has been insistent and stubborn resistance, in my judgment, to the expansion and output of raw materials in the metals field, and notably in steel. I believe the basic reason for this steel shortage is the failure to expand and decentralize the steel industry as much as it could be done. We have gone along feeling that the collection of scrap would meet the demands for making of steel. I hope it will. But the industry at present can only use high-grade scrap, and it is a question whether the supply will be enough.

Now, sponge iron can be made, and I am not talking as a metallurgist now, but it is a proven fact that it can be made from low-grade iron ore, and it can be used on a tremendous scale under the Anderson process, and is being used right now by our enemy, Japan, at this moment, which has a huge plant in Manchuria turning out a million tons of steel per year by the use of sponge iron. Sponge iron is a substitute for scrap.

Some time ago, before Pearl Harbor, we were told that we did not need a capacity in this country of more than 90,000,000 tons. This was in the Gano Dunn report. But soon after Pearl Harbor the War Production Board came along and said that we needed an additional 10,000,000-ton capacity, and we were going to get it over a 2-, 3-, or 4-year period. On July 24, 1942, the steel branch of the War Production Board came out and said they had underestimated and that we would need still more capacity. But we just do not have it. The key to the situation, in my judgment, is to put an end to the resistance to expansion of the sponge-iron industry and to expansion of steel production therefrom. The sponge-iron industry can go ahead and develop and produce throughout peacetime, and if it did it would mean the decentralization of the steel industry, which would go into many parts of this country, especially the west coast. That is not what the Steel Trust wants. But it would be a very good thing for the United States. In our Pacific coast section of the country we should have had a steel industry developed years ago and would have but for the opposition of entrenched interests.

Now just to summarize: There is grave danger of at least a shortage of scrap; the Mesabi Range iron is not going to last forever; sponge iron can be substituted for scrap, and by this process low-grade ores can be used. There has been opposition to expansion of steel production, which might be partially removed at least by a survey of how much can be provided by the use of low-grade iron-ore deposits which exist in many parts of the country.

Mr. Speaker, I hope very much the motion will prevail.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman from California has expired.

Mr. JOHNSON of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I yield 7 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama [Mr. BOYKIN].

Mr. BOYKIN. Mr. Speaker, I speak in favor of the Senate amendments, on the basis of our committee investigation into the steel-shortage situation of which I have the honor to be chairman.

For the past 10 months we have been investigating several phases of this tremendous situation. Our work at this point has only begun. Facts of great importance, however, have already been brought to light. This information was summarized in our interim report to this Congress on December 16, 1942, from which I quote:

Your committee has found that the supply of steel is woefully short of the requirements, as set forth each month by the service agencies (i. e., the Maritime Shipbuilding, the Navy, and the War Department). Notwithstanding the many drastic War Production Board limitation orders issued since Pearl Harbor—each of which prohibit the use of steel in the manufacture of hundreds of items—the shortage still persists.

The magnitude of this shortage is so serious that any public statement of actual figures is impossible at this time, for such information would be of real aid to the enemy.

During the 6 months of your inquiry the supply has never come even close to meeting the demand for steel, as indicated by the

PROVIDING FOR EMERGENCY FLOOD CONTROL WORK MADE NECESSARY BY RECENT FLOODS

JULY 2, 1943.—Ordered to be printed

MR. WHITTINGTON, from the committee of conference, submitted the following

CONFERENCE REPORT

[To accompany S. 1134]

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the House to the bill (S. 1134) to provide for emergency flood-control work made necessary by recent floods, and other purposes having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the Senate recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the House and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by the House amendment insert the following:

That the sum of \$10,000,000 is hereby authorized to be appropriated as an emergency fund to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers for the repair, restoration, and strengthening of levees and other flood-control works which have been threatened or destroyed by the recent floods: Provided, That pending the appropriation of said sum the Secretary of War may allot from existing flood-control appropriations such sums as may be necessary for the immediate prosecution of the work herein authorized, such appropriations to be reimbursed from the appropriation herein authorized when made: Provided further, That funds allotted under this authority shall not be diverted from the unobligated funds from the appropriation "Flood control, general", made available in the War Department Civil Appropriation Act, 1944, for specific purposes therein enumerated.

SEC. 2. *The provisions of Section 1 shall be deemed to be additional and supplemental to, and not in lieu of, existing general legislation authorizing allocation of flood-control funds for restoration of flood-control works threatened or destroyed by flood.*

SEC. 3. *The Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized and directed to suspend all quota provisions and other limitations with respect to the production of agricultural commodities on any lands affected by floods in 1943 whenever he finds that crops have been destroyed or plantings interfered with or washed out on said lands by reason of such floods, and he is further authorized to permit the maximum planting on such lands of any crops which are essential to the war effort, without the imposition of any penalty or the withholding of any benefit, soil conservation, or other agricultural payments.*

SEC. 4. *The War Production Board, and every other governmental agency which has jurisdiction over allocations and priorities relating to farm machinery and equipment, are authorized and directed immediately to take such steps as may be necessary to provide for the necessary allocations and priorities to enable farmers in the areas affected by floods in 1943 to replace and repair their farm machinery and equipment which was destroyed or damaged by such floods, and to continue farming operations.*

And the House agree to the same.

JOHN H. OVERTON,
BENNETT C. CLARK,
Managers on the part of the Senate.
WILL M. WHITTINGTON,
A. LEONARD ALLEN,
A. J. ELLIOTT,
CHARLES R. CLASON,
CARL T. CURTIS,
Managers on the part of the House.

STATEMENT OF THE MANAGERS ON THE PART OF THE HOUSE

The managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the House to the bill (S. 1134) entitled "A bill to provide for emergency flood-control work made necessary by recent floods, and for other purposes," submit the following statement in explanation of the effect of the action agreed upon and recommended in the accompanying conference report as to such an amendment namely:

AMENDMENT

The Senate bill included H. R. 3010 with the committee amendment reported by the House Committee on Flood Control. In addition to including the provisions of the House bill, section 2 authorized the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to aid in the rehabilitation, including the necessary relocation, protection, and elevation above flood plane, of railroads engaged in interstate commerce whose properties have been destroyed or damaged in whole or in part by flood in 1943, to make loans not to exceed at any one time \$25,000,000, at a rate of interest not to exceed 3 percent, upon such terms and conditions and with such security as the Corporation may prescribe. Under existing law the Reconstruction Finance Corporation is authorized to make such loans to railroads upon the approval of the Interstate Commerce Commission when such railroads are unable to obtain funds upon reasonable terms through banking channels or from the public, but requires adequate security, and the rate of interest is left to the discretion of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, which Corporation is authorized to make the loans at a rate in excess of or less than 3 percent. The loans heretofore made are generally at the rate of 4 percent although other loans are made to railroads at rates of interest less than 3 percent. The proposed section eliminated the requirement of adequate security and eliminated other requirements of existing law. There is adequate existing law to authorize the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to make rehabilitation loans to railroads. The proposed section 2 would have changed existing law. The section was eliminated in conference.

Section 4 of the Senate bill authorized the Secretary of Agriculture to suspend quota provisions on any lands affected by floods in 1943. All quota provisions have been suspended except the provisions on cotton and tobacco. It is too late to plant either cotton or tobacco for 1943. The proposed section 4 does not, therefore, change existing law. It was agreed to with an amendment that no penalty would be imposed for exceeding the quotas and that no benefit soil conservation or other agricultural payment would be withheld for exceeding the quotas in 1943.

Section 5 of the said Senate bill directed the War Production Board and every other governmental agency having jurisdiction over allocations and priorities relating to farm machinery and equipment to provide the necessary allocations and priorities to enable

farmers in the areas affected by floods in 1943 to replace and repair their farm machinery and equipment which was destroyed or damaged by such floods. The said section is in accord with the policy that has been adopted by the War Production Board; in fact, the War Production Board has provided for the actual shipment of farm machinery and equipment into all areas where requests have been made, affected by the floods in 1943. No change is made, therefore, by this amendment in the existing law or regulations.

The House struck out all after the enacting clause in said Senate 1134 and inserted in lieu thereof the provisions of the House bill with the committee amendment as reported by the Committee on Flood Control.

The conference report agrees to the provisions of the House bill as passed by the House, which had been previously included in the bill. It eliminates section 2 of the Senate bill with respect to rehabilitation loans to railroads. It includes section 4 of the Senate bill with respect to quotas with the amendments eliminating penalties and making secure benefit payments. It also retains section 5 of the bill providing for priorities for farm machinery and equipment in flooded areas.

WILL M. WHITTINGTON,
A. LEONARD ALLEN,
A. J. ELLIOTT,
CHARLES R. CLASON,
CARL T. CURTIS,

Managers on the part of the House.



the recent Interparliamentary Conference and the delegation from our Congress which was invited and attended the conference in Ottawa.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

[The matter referred to appears in the Appendix.]

EXPENSES, INVESTIGATION BY COMMITTEE ON INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE

Mr. PATTON. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Accounts I submit the following resolution (H. Res. 284), and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

Resolved, That the expenses of conducting the investigation authorized by House Resolution 98, Seventy-eighth Congress, incurred by the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, acting as a whole or by subcommittee, not to exceed \$12,000, including expenditures for the employment of clerical, stenographic, and other assistants, shall be paid out of the contingent fund of the House on vouchers authorized by such committee or subcommittee thereof conducting such investigation or any part thereof, signed by the chairman of the committee or subcommittee and approved by the Committee on Accounts.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

EMERGENCY FLOOD CONTROL

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I call up conference report on S. 1134, a bill to provide for emergency flood-control work made necessary by recent floods, and for other purposes, and I ask unanimous consent that the statement of the managers on the part of the House may be read in lieu of the full report.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. WHITTINGTON]?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the statement of the managers on the part of the House.

(For conference report and statement, see proceedings of June 2, 1943.)

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Mr. Speaker, the House will recall that the Senate bill included H. R. 3010, reported by the Committee on Flood Control. The bill was considered in the Senate before it was considered in the House. In addition to the provisions of the House bill the Senate bill included a provision authorizing the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to make loans not to exceed \$25,000,000 for the rehabilitation of railroads to pay for the raising of their tracks and to make improvements above the flood plane where they were damaged or destroyed by flood in 1943. It provided that those loans should be made upon such security as the Reconstruction Finance Corporation might prescribe and at a rate of interest not to exceed 3 percent. Under existing law rehabilitation loans to railroads are authorized, but they are required to be made, Mr. Speaker, upon

adequate security and after approval by the Interstate Commerce Commission and after it had been shown to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation that such loans could not be obtained from private sources. The existing law is sufficient for railroads that need rehabilitation funds.

The provision in the Senate bill would have changed existing law and would have eliminated the requirement for adequate and full security, and would have eliminated the provision that the railroads must obtain the funds from private sources if they were available. The provision for loans to railroads is section 2 of the Senate bill. In addition to the elimination of the requirement for adequate security and the requirement that the railroads must show that they were unable to obtain funds upon reasonable terms from banking channels or from the public, the section provided for a rate of interest not to exceed 3 percent. The Reconstruction Finance Corporation has made many loans to railroads. I understand that the aggregate of these loans is about one-half billion dollars. The rate of interest for loans for rehabilitation is generally 4 percent. Large loans have been made to railroads for equipment. I am advised that the rates of interest on these loans vary. In some cases the rate is less than 3 percent.

Under existing law the matter of rates is for the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. It is not the province of the Committee on Flood Control to provide for financing railroads, farms, or other properties. Such is the function of the Committee on Banking and Currency. The loan provision has no place in a flood control bill. The Committee on Flood Control conducted extensive hearings. There was no showing before the Committee on Flood Control to justify the loans. The proposed Section for rehabilitation loans to enable railroads to relocate and elevate their tracts above the flood plane and to repair and rebuild bridges at a rate not to exceed 3 percent interest would have changed the existing law with respect to loans to railroads. It would have eliminated many of the restrictions imposed by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation upon railroads. I am advised that loans were not made to railroads until the salaries of officials were readjusted and in many cases reduced. If the rate of interest for \$25,000,000 is made less than 4 percent, the railroads that are paying more than 3 percent with adequate security could well afford to ask Congress to reduce the rates of interest.

Again, the authorization of \$10,000,000 is to repair flood-control works that may protect railroads, farms, and cities. All classes of property are given equal treatment. No loans are provided for farms or for city property. The Disaster Loan Corporation makes provision for such loans. The Reconstruction Finance Corporation in its discretion may make the rates of interest for rehabilitation loans 3 percent. The Reconstruction Finance Corporation may charge 4 percent or less. It may charge 3 percent, more or less. In all the circum-

stances it was deemed unwise to change the existing law, especially with regard to the requirement for adequate security and the rates of interest. Section 2 of the bill, as it passed the Senate, which provided for rehabilitation loans to railroads, was therefore eliminated in conference.

The bill as agreed to is set forth in the conference report. It is the House bill, also embraced in the Senate bill, with the farm quota and machinery provisions of the Senate bill, which are really existing law, and regulations.

The Senate bill contained a provision, which is section 4, that authorized the suspension of quotas on flooded lands for the year 1943. That is existing law except on cotton and tobacco and it is entirely too late for any cotton or tobacco to be planted. This provision of the bill, as I say, is in accordance with existing law and with the existing regulations of the Department of Agriculture.

There was another provision in the Senate bill, which is section 5, that authorized and directed the War Production Board to make available for the flooded areas repairs and replacement for machinery and equipment damaged or destroyed by the floods in 1943. The War Production Board advised that those provisions have already been made and that shipments have been made into the area as requested, so that provision of the Senate bill is in accordance with existing law and existing regulations. The conference report therefore embraces the bill as it passed the House in the identical language as it passed the House, with a repetition of existing law and regulations as to quotas on farm machinery, which in my judgment are wholly unnecessary and only repeat.

The provision with respect to loans to railroads was not according to existing law and is eliminated. The provision suspending quotas, without eliminating benefit payments, and the provision for the shipment of farm machinery and farm machinery repair parts into the flooded areas are according to existing law and regulations, and, while unnecessary, are retained.

Mr. PLOESER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. I yield.

Mr. PLOESER. Are we to understand that the bill as it comes from the conferees is in its original House form?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. With the exception of the two provisions to which I referred, both of which are provided for by existing law and are necessary in my personal opinion, but to agree to the main provisions which are the house bill they were retained in the bill.

Mr. PLOESER. At any rate there is no new provision contrary to existing law or broadening existing law as it affects the railroads?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. That is right. The bill is substantially as it passed the House. The gentleman will recall that when the bill was considered in the House we struck out all after the enacting clause of the Senate bill and the House bill was substituted.

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. I yield to the gentleman from South Dakota.

Mr. CASE. Can the gentleman state whether or not the bill in the form now proposed will restrict the use of these funds to the repair of destroyed levees or whether it will permit the building of such additional levees or such other emergency steps as the Chief of Engineers may determine to be necessary?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. As I said, Mr. Speaker, the bill as it comes from the conference committee retains the exact language of the House bill, and that language was written into the Senate bill. It provides \$10,000,000 to repair, restore, and strengthen levees and other flood-control works, which have been threatened or destroyed by recent floods. It is only applicable where the Federal Government has constructed levees or other flood-control works or where the local interests have constructed levees or other flood-control works, and for such repairs or restorations as are necessary. There is a provision that pertains for the first time to strengthening the levees or other flood-control work that are built in the future to take the place of those destroyed, or other works that may be needed in the nature of repairs or minor improvements to existing works.

Mr. CASE. When I appeared before the gentleman's committee in the course of my testimony and other testimony, attention was drawn to cases where there were no existing levees, and if I remember correctly, the division engineer testified that in many cases the levees that had been built by local communities were entirely inadequate, were not long enough, or were not high enough in some instances.

In some places there were no levees. The increasing of the velocity of the stream by reason of other river improvements created flood damage where there had been no need for levees before. If the bill is restricted to strengthening existing levees, it does not do anything for those areas where there were no levees previously.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. All levees and other flood-control works are treated exactly alike. It has been the policy of the Committee on Flood Control to approve projects recommended by the Chief of Engineers rather than to turn over to either the Executive or to the Chief of Engineers lump-sum appropriations to enable them to expend the money at their discretion. If there are no existing works the policy is for those works to be authorized. The Flood Control Committee hopes to report a bill later on this session to provide for improvements where they are no works at this time, but this bill is for the repair of existing works and for emergency purposes.

Mr. CASE. The testimony before the gentleman's committee, and I do not refer to mine alone but to others, pointed out that to protect existing levees some new levees were necessary; that the straightening of the channel in certain cases had speeded up the water so that a mere strengthening of existing levees alone would not meet the needs of the situation.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. There are cases where local people—and cases where the Federal Government has aided in the construction through the Work Projects Administration—have constructed levees that were utterly inadequate. The only provision that Congress can make is to repair those levees, strengthen the part where they are built, and do whatever is necessary to strengthen, then secure an authorization later on to rebuild, the entire levee line.

Mr. CASE. Does the gentleman's committee contemplate considering further legislation to take care of the deficiencies in the flood-control system as revealed by the testimony before his committee?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. I so stated when this bill was under consideration. The committee has conducted hearings and plans to report a comprehensive bill. The gentleman will recall that there are no appropriations for national flood control for the next fiscal year. We hope to report a bill to provide for such cases as he has mentioned and for other works that the Chief of Engineers recommends and to provide for their construction as soon as funds are made available.

Mr. BISHOP. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. I yield to the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. BISHOP. Do part of these funds go to clean up debris and help build fences and clean up the areas that have been flooded?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. No; this bill has only to do with flood-control work. There is existing legislation providing for disaster loans to farmers and for the rehabilitation of farmers where they need livestock that has been destroyed.

Mr. BISHOP. How about drainage ditches that would be appropriate to drain such areas?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. If there are no flood works, no. What may be called, and are sometimes called, drainage districts are included in this bill if the levees or other flood-control works are damaged or destroyed, along the rivers or other streams.

Mr. MILLER of Connecticut. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. I yield to the gentleman from Connecticut.

Mr. MILLER of Connecticut. Can the gentleman tell me the effect of the proviso starting in line 17, page 2?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. I do not understand the gentleman.

Mr. MILLER of Connecticut. Tell me the effect of the proviso starting in line 17, page 2, of the bill: "The funds allotted under this authority shall not be diverted from unobligated funds," and so forth.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. I understand now that the gentleman refers to the Senate bill, line 17, page 2. As stated, when this bill was before the House, that proviso excepted from funds that might be allotted payment of \$250,000 to the city of Hartford, Conn., and funds that have been allotted for the construction of projects in Louisiana authorized by the act of August 1941. Those provi-

sions, wholly unnecessary, in my judgment, merely affirm existing law on the two propositions as provided by the War Department Civil Appropriation Act of 1944, in my personal judgment being unjustifiable, and do not contain any new legislation.

Mr. MILLER of Connecticut. That is the same item of \$252,000 that was in a bill recently passed?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Yes. It is the exception carried in the War Department civil appropriation bill. It should not have been in the House bill, because I think all projects ought to be treated exactly alike, and handled and construed as provided by law, but it does not change existing law, and only unnecessarily repeats.

Mr. MILLER of Connecticut. I agree with the gentleman.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I now yield to the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. CANNON] such time as he may desire.

Mr. CANNON of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I commend the distinguished gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. WHITTINGTON], chairman of the Committee on Flood Control, and his committee of managers on the part of the House on the excellent bill that they have brought back from conference. It is practical, it is workable, and it answers an imperative need. Only those who have actually visited the scene of devastation along the banks of the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers and their tributaries can appreciate the destruction wrought by the recent recurring floods. It exceeds anything suffered within the memory of this generation.

The assistance of the Federal Government provided for in this bill must be made available immediately. There is hardly a day to lose. The measure formulated by the gentleman from Mississippi and his committee, as it passed the House and as he brings it back practically intact from conference, will provide for the more urgent needs. Under it no new construction can be built. That would be impossible under the circumstances. But it provides for essential repairs of existing facilities. The destruction has been so great and so widespread that unless the Government does come to the rescue of this productive section in the Middle West, it will be impossible with local means and facilities to take care of the situation.

There has been no authorization for the expenditure of money provided at this session of the Congress that means so much in proportion to the amount involved as this measure does in providing for the rehabilitation of agriculture and the restoration of production in the heart of the breadbasket of the Nation. It is directly associated with the war effort in the protection of an area which under normal conditions produces vastly in excess of its quota of the Nation's food.

I am especially gratified that provision is made for strengthening and raising preexisting levees. Heretofore, under the statute, money could not be expended to increase the height of levees beyond their preflood status. Under this

bill as reported it will be possible to increase the height of such works to a point indicated by actual flood experience as necessary to provide complete protection.

I am glad to have had an opportunity to collaborate with the gentleman and his committee and trust we can secure prompt and favorable action under the authorization of the pending bill when the last deficiency appropriation bill is returned from the Senate.

Both the House and Senate portions of the gentleman's bill provide an authorization for an appropriation of \$10,000,000. In view of that fact and in anticipation of favorable action on the bill I am told the Senate has already inserted in the second deficiency bill an appropriation of \$10,000,000 for this purpose which was added on by Senator CLARK which, I have no doubt, the House will approve.

I include, as of particular interest to those sections drained by the Missouri River, a letter just received from Major General Reybold:

JULY 1, 1943.

HON. CLARENCE CANNON,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR MR. CANNON: The Department has received your letter of May 29, 1943, with reference to improvements on the Missouri River. In accompanying letters the opinion is expressed that improvements for navigation conflict with those for flood control and comments upon the effectiveness of reservoirs for flood-control purposes. It is urged that levee protection along the Missouri River be provided as early as possible. In your letter you ask for information on these subjects and for the comments of the Department on these remarks about flood-control reservoirs.

The Department has made extensive investigations of the navigation and flood-control problems in the Missouri River Basin and has recommended improvements to Congress for the solution of a number of those problems. Navigation improvements which have been authorized by Congress and constructed by this Department have been successful by providing a channel in a definitely fixed location in the flood plain of the river. The Fort Peck Reservoir, recently completed in the headwaters of the basin, now provides a regulated minimum flow in the channel to insure sufficient depth for navigation purposes and, in addition, provides storage capacity which reduces substantially the flood flows downstream.

The Flood Control Acts of June 22, 1936, June 28, 1938, and August 18, 1941, authorize the construction of a number of flood-control works throughout the Missouri River Basin, of which the more important are a comprehensive plan of reservoirs for flood control and other purposes and systems of levees and other protective works between Sioux City and Kansas City and at the Kansas Citys. The Department is now making additional investigations of the need for further improvements for flood control in this basin, and such further improvements as may be recommended as a result of those investigations will be submitted to Congress at the earliest practicable date. The improvements both for navigation and flood control so far accomplished have constituted the first step for the development of the Missouri River for flood control, navigation, and other beneficial purposes.

Before the Missouri River Valley was settled the river during floods overflowed the channel banks and spread out over the flood plain, which thus served as a reservoir temporarily holding back a large portion of the

flood waters until the waters in the lower part of the valley receded. As settlement of the valley progressed there has been a continuous encroachment by the works of man on the flood plain which reduced this temporary reservoir capacity and increased flood heights all along the river. These man-made works include highways, railroads, bridges, levees, and many other types of structures which have become of increasing importance to the economic progress of the valley. This has created the problem not only of overcoming the loss of natural storage in the valley but also of providing adequate flood protection for the encroachments upon that natural storage wherever such protection is economically and physically feasible.

Adequate flood protection in the Missouri Valley cannot be provided by levees alone, but it can be satisfactorily accomplished by a balanced plan of storage reservoirs, levees, and channel improvements. In some of the reservoirs it will be possible to utilize the water resources at those sites for the development of hydroelectric power without sacrificing the usefulness of the reservoirs for the necessary storage of water for flood-control purposes. The improvements now authorized for flood control, navigation, and other purposes in the basin form an essential first unit of the overall development needed for the control of the many water problems which exist in this basin. When completed, those improvements will afford a substantial degree of flood protection for many of the areas which have been damaged so heavily during past floods.

As you are undoubtedly aware, existing policies on wartime construction established by higher authority preclude the initiation of construction of additional public-works improvements during the war, unless a definite showing can be made by the Federal war agency directly concerned with the facilities to be protected that the construction work is essential to the war effort. The purpose of these limitations is, of course, to conserve critical materials, construction equipment, and manpower for the successful prosecution of the war.

You may be assured that the Department is prepared to undertake the further accomplishment of the adopted plan of reservoirs and local protection works for flood control and other purposes in the Missouri River Basin as soon as the existing limitations on public-works construction are removed, subject to the availability of authorizations and funds.

I am pleased to state that section 5 of the Flood Control Act approved August 18, 1941, authorizes the Secretary of War to allot from flood-control appropriations not to exceed \$1,000,000 for any one fiscal year, to be expended in rescue work or in the repair or maintenance of any flood-control work destroyed by flood. The Department's district engineers in the Missouri River area are now making investigations of the levees damaged by the recent floods on the Missouri River to determine the need for Federal assistance in repair work under this authority. I may assure you that the Department will assist as much as possible in the restoration of the levees damaged by the recent floods on the Missouri River within the limits of the existing authority and available funds.

Although the preliminary estimates of the division and district engineers in the areas where the recent disastrous floods occurred indicate that the total costs of essential repairs to existing flood control works damaged by those floods will far exceed the authorization and funds now available to the Department for such repairs, I may assure you that the Department will assist as much as possible in the restoration of the levees along the Missouri River.

As you know, legislation has recently been introduced in Congress which, if enacted, would provide additional authorization for the Department to accomplish the work now

required to repair flood-control structures damaged by the recent floods in the central and southwestern parts of the country. That legislation is contained in the bills S. 1134, House Joint Resolution 132, H. R. 3010, and other bills.

The enclosures which were enclosed with your letter are returned herewith as requested.

Very truly yours,

E. REYBOLD,

Major General, Chief of Engineers.

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Nebraska [Mr. STEFAN].

Mr. STEFAN. Will the gentleman explain sections 2, 3, 4, of the report in connection with the farm land situation?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. I have already explained that. The bill as reported by the conferees contains a provision that quotas shall not be applicable, on lands affected by floods in 1943, and that quotas for said year shall be suspended without prejudice.

Mr. STEFAN. The quota program will not apply to those lands?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. It does not apply for the year 1943. The provision is wholly unnecessary because quotas do not apply except in the case of cotton and tobacco anyway, and it is too late to plant cotton or tobacco.

Mr. STEFAN. The gentleman anticipates an appropriation to carry on this work and that will come to us in the form of a deficiency bill, as explained by the chairman of the Appropriations Committee?

Mr. WHITTINGTON. Yes; that is correct.

Mr. Speaker, I move the previous question.

The previous question was ordered.

The conference report was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPOINTMENT OF AN ADDITIONAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

Mr. PETERSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of the bill (H. R. 2801) to provide for the appointment of an additional assistant secretary of the Interior.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

Mr. MARTIN of Massachusetts. Reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, is this a unanimous report from the committee?

Mr. PETERSON of Florida. The committee went into the matter rather carefully and reported the bill unanimously.

Mr. TABER. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MARTIN of Massachusetts. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. TABER. Why do they need any more assistant secretaries of the Interior? It seems to me they have enough.

Mr. PETERSON of Florida. The work has been greatly increased recently. The duties of Coordinator of Fisheries have recently been placed upon the Secretary. Also, more than 200,000 licenses have already been issued under the Explosives

Act we passed. The problems of the war have brought additional problems in the various territories. The coal situation has also added a number of duties. The Committee on the Public Lands is a rather conservative committee. We went into this matter rather thoroughly and decided that the additional position is needed, but we limited it to the duration of the war and 6 months thereafter.

Mr. TABER. It is limited, then; it is temporary?

Mr. PETERSON of Florida. Yes.

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MARTIN of Massachusetts. I yield to the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. CRAWFORD. Can the gentleman give details as to what he means when he says the work has materially increased in the Territories?

Mr. PETERSON of Florida. I am more familiar with Alaska than the other Territories or possessions. I am not a member of the Committee on the Territories. I know that in Alaska in connection with certain lands on which there were leases the leases have had to be suspended and the people have had to move out of certain areas. I am not familiar with the other Territories and possessions.

Mr. CRAWFORD. Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, for instance?

Mr. PETERSON of Florida. I am not familiar with them.

Mr. CRAWFORD. The gentleman has no information on them?

Mr. PETERSON of Florida. No.

Mr. SMITH of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MARTIN of Massachusetts. I yield to the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. SMITH of Ohio. What is to be the salary of this Assistant Secretary of the Interior?

Mr. PETERSON of Florida. Nine thousand dollars.

Mr. SMITH of Ohio. Is his title to be Assistant Secretary?

Mr. PETERSON of Florida. We say there shall be no rank as between the assistant secretaries.

Mr. SMITH of Ohio. He is to be an assistant secretary?

Mr. PETERSON of Florida. Yes.

Mr. SMITH of Ohio. I object, Mr. Speaker.

STATUE OF SIR WILLIAM BLACKSTONE

Mr. O'TOOLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of the bill (H. R. 2106) to provide for the acceptance on behalf of the United States of a statue of Sir William Blackstone, the work of the late Paul V. Bartlett, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

Mr. MARTIN of Massachusetts. Reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, I understand that under this bill there is to be no cost to the Government?

Mr. O'TOOLE. There will be a cost of about \$10,000 for the pedestal and to landscape the grounds.

Mr. MARTIN of Massachusetts. Where is this statue to be located?

Mr. BULWINKLE. If the gentleman will yield, it is to be located on Judiciary Square in the city of Washington.

Mr. MARTIN of Massachusetts. Will the gentleman kindly give the House the benefit of his knowledge about the proposal?

Mr. BULWINKLE. This is a very interesting matter. Mr. Justice Groner, of the court of appeals, requested that I introduce this bill.

In 1923 the American Bar Association was invited to be the guest of the English bar in London. At that time the American Bar Association was going to present a statue of Sir William Blackstone to the bar of England. Mr. Paul W. Bartlett, a famous sculptor, was selected to do the statue. However, the plaster cast he took over there was found to be a little large, so he had another cast made. Mr. Bartlett died after he completed the second statue. Mrs. Bartlett, at her own expense, took the first plaster cast to a foundry in Belgium and had the statue cast in bronze and brought it back to the United States. She wanted to give to the United States this heroic statue of Sir William Blackstone. It cost her something over \$25,000, I understand. Justice Groner, Chief Justice Stone, and others have been very much interested in having the United States accept this statue. It will cost about \$10,000 for the pedestal and for landscaping the grounds.

Mr. MARTIN of Massachusetts. I withdraw my reservation of objection, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That the Secretary of the Interior is authorized and directed to accept, on behalf of the United States, the bronze statue of Sir William Blackstone, the work of the late Paul W. Bartlett, as a gift from Mrs. Paul W. Bartlett, and, with the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts, to provide for the erection of such statue at a suitable location on the north side of Judiciary Square in the District of Columbia.

Sec. 2. There is authorized to be appropriated the sum of \$10,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for carrying out the provisions of this act, including the procurement of a suitable pedestal for such statue.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

URGENT DEFICIENCY APPROPRIATION BILL, 1943

Mr. CANNON of Missouri submitted the following conference report and statement on the bill (H. R. 2714) making appropriations to supply urgent deficiencies in certain appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1943, and for prior fiscal years, and for other purposes:

CONFERENCE REPORT

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate Numbered 5, 60, and 61 to the bill (H. R. 2714) "making

appropriations to supply urgent deficiencies in certain appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1943, and for prior fiscal years, and for other purposes" having met, after full and free conference have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

Amendment numbered 5: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate to the amendment of the House to Senate amendment numbered 5, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows: In lieu of the matter proposed to be stricken out by such amendment and in lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by the action of the Senate and House of Representatives, insert the following: "Provided, That no part of such fund shall be available after June 30, 1943, for allocation to finance a function or project for which function or project a budget estimate of appropriation was transmitted pursuant to law during the Seventy-eighth Congress and such appropriation denied after consideration thereof by the Senate and House of Representatives or by the Committees on Appropriations of both bodies"; and the Senate agree to the same.

Amendment numbered 60: That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate numbered 60, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows: Restore the matter proposed to be stricken out by such amendment, amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 304. No part of any appropriation, allocation, or fund (1) which is made available under or pursuant to this Act, or (2) which is now, or which is hereafter made, available under or pursuant to any other Act, to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States, shall be used, after November 15, 1943, to pay any part of the salary, or other compensation for the personal services, of Goodwin B. Watson, William E. Dodd, Junior, and Robert Morris Lovett, unless prior to such date such person has been appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate: *Provided*, That this section shall not operate to deprive any such person of payment for leaves of absence or salary, or of any refund or reimbursement, which have accrued prior to November 15, 1943: *Provided further*, That this section shall not operate to deprive any such person of payment for services performed as a member of a jury or as a member of the armed forces of the United States nor any benefit, pension, or emolument resulting therefrom."

And the Senate agree to the same.

The Committee of Conference report in disagreement Senate amendment No. 61.

CLARENCE CANNON,
C. A. WOODRUM,
LOUIS LUDLOW,
J. BUELL SNYDER,
EMMET O'NEAL,
LOUIS C. RABAUT,
JOHN TABER,
R. B. WIGGLESWORTH,
W. P. LAMBERTSON,
J. W. DITTER,

Managers on the part of the House.

KENNETH MCKELLAR,
CARL HAYDEN,
M. E. TYDINGS,
GERALD P. NYE,
H. C. LODGE, Jr.,

Managers on the part of the Senate.

STATEMENT

The managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate Nos. 5, 60, and 61 to the bill (H. R. 2714) making appropriations to supply urgent deficiencies in certain appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1943, and for prior fiscal years, and for other purposes, submit



[PUBLIC LAW 138—78TH CONGRESS]

[CHAPTER 224—1ST SESSION]

[S. 1134]

AN ACT

To provide for emergency flood-control work made necessary by recent floods, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the sum of \$10,000,000 is hereby authorized to be appropriated as an emergency fund to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers for the repair, restoration, and strengthening of levees and other flood-control works which have been threatened or destroyed by the recent floods: *Provided*, That pending the appropriation of said sum the Secretary of War may allot from existing flood-control appropriations such sums as may be necessary for the immediate prosecution of the work herein authorized, such appropriations to be reimbursed from the appropriation herein authorized when made: *Provided further*, That funds allotted under this authority shall not be diverted from the unobligated funds from the appropriation "Flood control, general", made available in the War Department Civil Appropriation Act, 1944, for specific purposes therein enumerated.

SEC. 2. The provisions of Section 1 shall be deemed to be additional and supplemental to, and not in lieu of, existing general legislation authorizing allocation of flood-control funds for restoration of flood-control works threatened or destroyed by flood.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Agriculture is hereby authorized and directed to suspend all quota provisions and other limitations with respect to the production of agricultural commodities on any lands affected by floods in 1943 whenever he finds that crops have been destroyed or plantings interfered with or washed out on said lands by reason of such floods, and he is further authorized to permit the maximum planting on such lands of any crops which are essential to the war effort, without the imposition of any penalty or the withholding of any benefit, soil conservation, or other agricultural payments.

SEC. 4. The War Production Board, and every other governmental agency which has jurisdiction over allocations and priorities relating to farm machinery and equipment, are authorized and directed immediately to take such steps as may be necessary to provide for the necessary allocations and priorities to enable farmers in the areas affected by floods in 1943 to replace and repair their farm machinery and equipment which was destroyed or damaged by such floods, and to continue farming operations.

Approved July 12, 1943.

